The Herald-Palladium

hp

GOOD FELLOW FUND

Donate: TheHP.com/goodfellows

We're here to help Michigan get back to work.
Which means we are bringing you virtual services!
Visit miworks.org/online-resources for more info.

To schedule an appointment:
(800) 285-9675 | miworks.org

MICHIGAN WORKS!
Berrien • Cass • Van Buren

K-9 OFFICERS RECEIVE VESTS

Local, A3

TheHP.com @HeraldPalladium HeraldPalladium HeraldPalladium THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2020 $2

BERRIEN COUNTY

Vaccine doses could be here soon

But general population won't be inoculated until sometime in spring

By ALEXANDRA NEWMAN
HP Staff Writer

BENTON TOWNSHIP — Berrien County Health Department officials are preparing for the arrival of a COVID-19 vaccine, in addition to balancing a high case count right now.

Deputy Health Officer Courtney Davis told the Berrien County Board of Health on Wednesday morning that initial distribution of the Pfizer vaccine is expected around Dec. 18.

She said the health department, along with Spectrum Health Lakeland, are working in weekly meetings on getting population counts on those most likely to be prioritized to receive the first doses. Those populations include health care workers, plus staff and residents of congregant care facilities.

"We want to avoid some of the confusion we had around H1N1 and make sure we know who is responsible for what, and that we're efficient with our time," Davis said.

The health department would partner with Spectrum Health Lakeland to store vaccines that must be kept at extremely cold temperatures, like the Pfizer vaccine. It could store others itself, like the one from Moderna, that need not be kept so cold.

Davis said vaccinating high priority groups will take several months, and will be complicated by the cold weather and, possibly, the multiple doses people will need to get.

"There won't be mass availability of the vaccine until late April or May," she said. "That could speed up or slow down, but that's the estimation now."

New quarantine window

The CDC announced Wednesday that people who may have been exposed to the coronavirus but are asymptomatic can end their quarantine after seven days, instead of 14, if they test negative.

A test can be completed 48 hours prior to day seven of quarantine, but people must complete seven days minimum. If test results are not received by day seven, people must continue to quarantine until day 10.

Davis said Berrien County does not have the testing capacity to return test results within 48 hours for everyone, so most people will need to still complete the full 10-day quarantine period.

"There won't be enough tests to have every asymptomatic, quarantined person get a test and get the results in a meaningful amount of time to then alter that quarantine period," she said.

County Medical Director Rick Johansen said that he,

See VACCINE, page A6

SANTA SAYS 'STAY SAFE'

Don Campbell / HP staff

A pontoon boat, featuring a masked Santa Claus holiday display, sits tethered along the St. Joseph River on Tuesday night in Niles.

State suspends St. Joseph hotel permits

Silver Beach Hotel cited due to alleged pandemic violations

By HP STAFF

ST. JOSEPH — A St. Joseph hotel is one of three Michigan businesses that saw its liquor, food and entertainment permits suspended this week due to alleged pandemic-related violations, according to the Michigan Liquor Control Commission.

The commission, in a news release issued Wednesday, said the Silver Beach Hotel is accused of multiple violations of the state Department of Health and Human Services' Gatherings and Face Mask Order. The state order against the hotel was issued Tuesday.

The other businesses cited are the Chapz Roadhouse restaurant, in Lakeview, and the Mine Shaft and Rock House Grill & Tavern, in Houghton.

State officials charge that all three businesses violated state orders that went into effect Nov. 18.

"This pandemic has taken a toll on all of us – from schoolteachers and students to frontline workers and caregivers, we are all feeling the effects of COVID-19. Business owners are no exception," said Attorney General Dana Nessel said in the release. "But the state has an obligation to protect the public health and welfare, and the emergency public health orders and the associated closures are needed to save lives."

The St. Joseph hotel owner, ASJJ Hotel Properties, Inc., has been ordered to appear Dec. 11 via Zoom before an administrative law judge for a virtual hearing "to determine whether this summary suspension should continue, or other fines and penalties should be imposed."

Silver Beach Hotel is located downtown, at 100 Main Street.

According to the release, the commission issued an emergency suspension order of the B Hotel License with a specific purpose permit (food), Sunday sales/p.m. permit (liquor), and dance/

See PERMITS, page A6

Judge refuses to block ban on Michigan indoor dining

By ED WHITE
Associated Press

DETROIT — Bars and restaurants lost a challenge Wednesday to Michigan's ban on indoor dining and immediately warned about business failures and deep job losses if the restriction linked to the coronavirus is extended past next week.

U.S. District Judge Paul Maloney turned down a request for an injunction with seven days left in the three-week ban. It was ordered in mid-November by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's administration in response to a distressing rise in virus cases.

"The court finds that a plausible explanation for the emergency order exists: Restaurant patrons cannot wear a mask while eating or drinking," Maloney said. "Plaintiffs complain that they are being treated differently than similar businesses, but as the court noted in its previous order, individuals can patronize the businesses that remain open while wearing a mask."

The Michigan Restaurant & Lodging Association and some restaurants sued state health director Robert Gordon. They said they can safely provide indoor dining and were being treated unfairly when compared to other businesses.

High schools and colleges also were told to stop in-person classes and prep sports for three weeks. Casinos, movie theaters and bowling alleys also are closed, and gyms can't host group exercise.

The head of the restaurant group said he'll ask Gordon to "provide clear and specific data" that would justify extended closures. Whitmer on Tuesday wouldn't tip her hand when asked if the dining ban will continue

See DINING, page A6

Benton Harbor gives cool reception to proposed new convenience store

Similar stores were a magnet to revelers over the summer

By LOUISE WREGE
HP Staff Writer

BENTON HARBOR — Benton Harbor planning commissioners on Tuesday tabled reviewing plans for a proposed new convenience store and gas station, to be built on the corner of Colfax and Empire avenues.

Mayor Marcus Muhammad, who serves on the planning commission, said he wants to give residents more time to speak about the proposal.

Three city commissioners who are not members of the planning commission spoke against the proposed business, which would be kitty corner from Benton Harbor High School.

They said the city already has four 24-hour convenience stores, where teens and young adults persistently gathered earlier this year and caused problems.

In July, Benton Harbor Department of Public Safety Director Dan McGinnis said crowds of young people were driving between the city's four businesses late at night, playing loud music, drag racing and dancing in the streets.

"I vehemently disagree with bringing another service station in that area. This summer was horrible," Commissioner Sharon Henderson said.

The people proposing to build the gas station did not speak during the meeting,

See STORE, page A6

Trump's grievances feed menacing undertow after the election

By COLLEEN LONG and CALVIN WOODWARD
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The last throes of Donald Trump's presidency have turned ugly – even dangerous.

Death threats are on the rise. Local and state election officials are being hounded into hiding. A Trump campaign lawyer is declaring publicly that a federal official who defended the integrity of the election should be "drawn and quartered" or simply shot.

Neutral public servants, Democrats and growing number of Republicans who won't do what Trump wants are being caught in a menacing postelection undertow stirred by Trump's grievances about the election he lost.

"Death threats, physical threats, intimidation – it's too much, it's not right," said Gabriel Sterling, a Republican elections official in Georgia who implored Trump to "stop inspiring people to commit potential acts of violence." Trump in response only pressed his groundless case that he lost unfairly, neither discouraging trouble nor explicitly calling for it.

The triggering of emotions has always been a Trump staple. His political movement was born in arenas that echoed with supporters' chants of "lock her up." Support was animated over the past four years by his relentlessly mocking ways, his slams against the "enemy of the people," and his raw talent for belittling political foes with insulting nicknames like "Sleepy Joe" Biden. That's one of the nicer ones.

See AFTERMATH, page A6

The Newspaper for Southwest Michigan

To subscribe or report delivery problems, call 429-1396

Index

Classifieds	B5	Local	A3	Our Town	B6	Nation	A2
Comics	B4	Obituaries	A5	Puzzles	B3	Television	B3
Features	B3	Opinion	A4	Sports	B1	Weather	A6

Tomorrow's Weather
High 42 Low 31

6 50645 49085 0

Giuliani to Republicans: Pressure Legislature on Biden win

By DAVID EGGERT
Associated Press

LANSING — President Donald Trump's personal lawyer urged Michigan Republican activists on Wednesday to pressure, even threaten, the GOP-controlled Legislature to "step up" and award the state's 16 electoral votes to Trump despite Democrat Joe Biden's 154,000-vote victory.

Rudy Giuliani made baseless claims of "massive fraud, all over the country," before testifying to a Republican-led legislative committee. Just a day before, Attorney General William Barr declared the Justice Department had uncovered no evidence of widespread voter fraud that could change the outcome of the 2020 election.

GOP legislative leaders have said they will not try to replace Michigan's electors.

Giuliani said the U.S. Constitution empowers legislatures to appoint electors directly, even though the Legislature long ago passed a law allotting them to the popular vote winner. Biden won the state by 2.8 percentage points. The result was certified by the state's bipartisan election board last week.

"They're the ones who should have the courage to step up," Giuliani said of lawmakers during a virtual event hosted by the Michigan Republican Party. "You have state legislators who are so frightened that they have a hard time focusing on it. You have got to get them to remember that their oath to the Constitution sometimes requires being criticized. Sometimes it even requires being threatened."

Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey, who was among GOP legislators who attended an extraordinary meeting with Trump at the White House less than two weeks ago, reiterated Tuesday that the Legislature will not undermine the voters' will.

"We will follow the law and follow the normal process regarding Michigan's electors," he tweeted. "Assertions that Michigan legislators have authority different from what is expressly found in state law are inaccurate. Any change would require intervention by our courts."

In a highly unusual step, the Republican chairman of the House Oversight Committee, Rep. Matt Hall, ceded the hearing to Giuliani – who in turn began questioning witnesses. The first was Jessy Jacob, a furloughed Detroit worker who was temporarily assigned to the city clerk's office.

She repeated claims in her sworn affidavit that was submitted in a lawsuit in which GOP poll challengers unsuccessfully sought to stop the certification of votes in the Democratic stronghold of Wayne County, home to Detroit. She said, for example, that she saw other workers coaching voters to cast ballots for Biden and the Democrats and she was instructed not to ask voters for photo ID.

AP Photo / Rick Bowmer

Travelers walk through the Salt Lake City International Airport in Salt Lake City, a day before Thanksgiving. On Wednesday, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are urging Americans to stay home over the upcoming holiday season and consider getting tested before and after if they do decide to travel.

Stay home for the holidays or get tested twice, CDC urges

By LINDSEY TANNER
Associated Press

Don't travel over the upcoming holidays. But if you must, consider getting coronavirus tests before and after, U.S. health officials urged Wednesday.

The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said that the best way to stay safe and protect others is to stay home.

The agency also announced new guidelines that shorten recommended quarantines after close contact with someone infected with coronavirus. The agency said the risk in a shorter quarantine is small, but that the change makes following the guidance less of a hardship.

The no-travel advice echoes recommendations for Thanksgiving but many Americans ignored it. With COVID-19 continuing to surge, the CDC added the testing option.

"Cases are rising, hospitalizations are increasing , deaths are increasing. We need to try to bend the curve, stop this exponential increase," the CDC's Dr. Henry Walke said during a briefing.

He said any travel-related surge in cases from travel would likely be apparent about a week to 10 days after Thanksgiving.

The virus has infected more than 13.5 million Americans and killed at least 270,000 since January.

"The safest thing to do is to postpone holiday travel and stay home," said Dr. Cindy Friedman, another CDC official. "Travel volume was high over Thanksgiving," and even if small numbers were infected, that could result in "hundreds of thousands of new infections."

''Travel is a door-to-door experience that can spread virus during the journey and also into communities that travelers visit or live," she added.

For those who decide to travel, COVID-19 tests should be considered one to three days before the trip and again three to five days afterward, the CDC said. The agency also recommended travelers reduce non-essential activities for a full week after they return or for 10 days if not tested afterward. And it emphasized the importance of continuing to follow precautions including masks, social distancing and frequent hand-washing.

LOTTERIES

Wednesday drawings

Michigan
Classic Lotto 47
01-10-15-22-26-33
Poker Lotto
AC-2C-2D-4H-5S
Midday Daily 3
1-0-2
Midday Daily 4
7-9-6-9
Daily 3
4-0-9
Daily 4
7-6-8-9
Fantasy 5
16-20-25-26-27
Keno
01-03-10-11-15-21-28-29-35-38-44-46-53-54-63-65-66-70-77-78-79-80
Mega Millions jackpot
$244 million
Powerball jackpot
$231 million

Tuesday drawings

Michigan
Mega Millions
07-33-53-61-65, Mega Ball: 14, Megaplier: 2
Indiana
Cash 5
14-27-30-31-37
Cash4Life
01-02-25-48-53, Cash Ball: 4
Quick Draw Midday
05-06-07-09-19-20-29-36-40-45-46-53-54-56-59-61-63-76-79-80, BE: 79
Daily Three-Midday
3-3-4, SB: 7
Daily Three-Evening
5-1-9, SB: 9
Daily Four-Midday
7-9-7-2, SB: 7
Daily Four-Evening
1-7-4-5, SB: 9
Quick Draw Evening
05-06-12-22-30-38-39-40-41-46-53-57-58-59-63-64-65-66-68-75, BE: 59
Illinois
LuckyDay Lotto Midday
04-15-39-43-44
Pick Three-Midday
9-8-8, Fireball: 8
Pick Three-Evening
4-3-7, Fireball: 3
Pick Four-Midday
7-6-4-0, Fireball: 0
Pick Four-Evening
7-0-9-7, Fireball: 9
Lucky Day Lotto
08-14-33-38-39

– The Associated Press

Contact us

To contact the Newsroom, send an email to one of the addresses listed below, call one of the direct lines listed below, or call our main office at 429-2400 and ask for one of the extensions listed below.

News tip
Ext. 293
localnews@TheHP.com

Features
Ext. 225
focus@TheHP.com

Letters to the Editor
Ext. 295
letters@TheHP.com

Sports
Ext. 294, or 429-1294
sports@TheHP.com

Obituaries
Ext. 295, or 429-2295
obits@TheHP.com

Photo
Ext. 204
photos@TheHP.com

To order reprints of staff photos or high-quality reproductions of full pages, visit www.TheHP.com and click on the Photo Gallery and Reprints link.

The Herald-Palladium

P.O. Box 128 • 3450 Hollywood Road • St. Joseph, MI 49085
Volume 152, Number 249

For delivery and subscription information, call 269-429-1396 or email delivery@TheHP.com
9 a.m.-2 p.m. Mondays-Fridays.
If your paper is missed, please call 269-429-1396.

To place a classified ad, call 269-429-4484.

To reach any other department, call our main number at 269-429-2400.

Main number hours are 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Mondays-Fridays.

Cash payments and checks are accepted in our drop box outside the lobby. The Circulation and Classified departments can accept credit card payments via telephone during their normal hours.

Our building is currently closed to the public because of the coronavirus.

MAIN FAX	**429-7661**
NEWSROOM FAX	**429-4398**
CLASSIFIED ADV. FAX	**429-8344**

Home delivery rates:
Mail delivery $30.25/4 wks
EZ-Pay $26.40/month

All subscriptions are payable in advance. Other payment options available by calling Subscriber Services at 269-429-2400.

The Herald-Palladium is printed for your convenience with low-ruboff soy ink and with newsprint containing recycled paper.

David Holgate Publisher
Dave Brown Managing Editor
Sara Horton Advertising Director
Julie Simpleman Circulation Director
Jenn Mann Business Manager

The Herald-Palladium is published daily, Mondays through Saturdays, except for USPS holidays, at 3450 Hollywood Road, St. Joseph, MI and is a consolidation of The Herald-Press and The News-Palladium. Periodicals Mail postage paid at St. Joseph, MI (USPS 387-440). Postmaster: Send change of address to P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085. Member of The Associated Press.

PRINTED WITH SOY INK

New unemployment head balances paying claims, stopping fraud

By DAVID EGGERT
Associated Press

LANSING — Michigan's acting unemployment director told lawmakers on Wednesday that her office is trying to strike a balance between quickly paying benefits to jobless workers and preventing fraud, saying impostor claims are rampant in a backlog of approximately 90,000 cases.

Liza Estlund Olson took over the Unemployment Insurance Agency less than a month ago after the previous chief, Steve Gray, fell out of favor with Democratic Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. The agency last week released an independent report showing how – faced with an unprecedented deluge of claims during the coronavirus lockdown last spring – it made policy, technological and organizational changes that increased the system's exposure to fraud.

The state, for instance, waived a 10-day review period in late March so that it could pay benefits more quickly. A "sequencing error," though, resulted in claims being filed, certified and paid on the same day before being run through fraud-check software at night. That went on for seven weeks until the agency made changes and stopped additional payments for 340,000 claims that previously received them.

"The idea was a potentially good idea if it had worked the way it was supposed to work," Estlund Olson told the Republican-led Joint Select Committee on the COVID-19 Pandemic. "It's just this constant balancing act between not paying out to people who aren't supposed to be paid and paying those people timely who are supposed to get paid."

She estimated that fraud losses will total hundreds of millions of dollars out of $26 billion in state and federal benefits paid since the pandemic began. Of the 90,000 backlogged claims under review, a "significant number" are fraudulent, she said.

Britain OKs Pfizer vaccine and will begin shots within days

By LAURAN NEERGAARD and DANICA KIRKA
Associated Press

LONDON — Britain became the first country in the world to authorize a rigorously tested COVID-19 vaccine Wednesday and could be dispensing shots within days – a historic step toward eventually ending the outbreak that has killed more than 1.4 million people around the globe.

In giving the go-ahead for emergency use of the vaccine developed by American drugmaker Pfizer and Germany's BioNTech, Britain vaulted past the United States by at least a week. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is not scheduled to consider the vaccine until Dec. 10.

"This is a day to remember, frankly, in a year to forget," British Health Secretary Matt Hancock said.

The announcement sets the stage for the biggest vaccination campaign in British history and came just ahead of what experts are warning will be a long, dark winter, with the coronavirus surging to epic levels in recent weeks in the U.S. and Europe.

Officials cautioned that several tough months still lie ahead even in Britain, given the monumental task of inoculating large swaths of the population. Because of the limited initial supply, the first shots will be reserved for those most in danger, namely nursing home residents, the elderly and health care workers.

Britain's Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency recommended the vaccine after clinical trials involving tens of thousands of volunteers showed it was 95 percent effective and turned up no serious side effects. The vaccine is still considered experimental while final testing is done.

Nurses wanted: Swamped hospitals scramble for pandemic help

By GRANT SCHULTE and AMY FORLITI
Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — U.S. hospitals slammed with COVID-19 patients are trying to lure nurses and doctors out of retirement, recruiting students and new graduates who have yet to earn their licenses and offering eye-popping salaries in a desperate bid to ease staffing shortages.

With the virus surging from coast to coast, the number of patients in the hospital with the virus has more than doubled over the past month to a record high of nearly 100,000, pushing medical centers and health care workers to the breaking point. Nurses are increasingly burned out and getting sick on the job, and the stress on the nation's medical system prompted a dire warning from the head of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"The reality is December and January and February are going to be rough times. I actually believe they are going to be the most difficult time in the public health history of this nation," Dr. Robert Redfield said.

Governors in hard-hit states like Wisconsin and Nebraska are making it easier for retired nurses to come back, including by waiving licensing requirements and fees, though it can be a tough sell for older nurses, who would be in more danger than many of their colleagues if they contracted the virus.

Some are taking jobs that don't involve working directly with patients to free up front-line nurses, McMillan said.

Iowa is allowing temporary, emergency licenses for new nurses who have met the state's educational requirements but haven't yet taken the state licensing exam. Some Minnesota hospitals are offering winter internships to nursing students to boost their staffs. The internships are typically offered in the summer but were canceled this year because of COVID-19.

Methodist Hospital in Minneapolis will place 25 interns for one to two months to work with COVID-19 patients, though certain tasks will remain off-limits, such as inserting IVs or urinary catheters, said Tina Kvalheim, a nurse who runs the program.

"They'll be fully supported in their roles so that our patients receive the best possible, safe care," Kvalheim said..

Landon Brown, 21, of Des Moines, Iowa, a senior nursing student at Minnesota State University, Mankato, recently accepted an internship at the Mayo Clinic Health System in Mankato. He was assigned to the pediatric unit's medical-surgical area but said he might come across patients with the coronavirus.

Brown's resolve to help patients as a nurse was reaffirmed after his 90-year-old grandfather contracted the virus and died over the weekend.

"The staff that he had were great, and they really took a lot of pressure off of my folks and my family," he said. "I think that if I can be that for another family, that would be great."

The University of Iowa's College of Nursing is also trying to get graduates into the workforce quickly. It worked to fast-track students' transcripts to the Iowa Board of Nursing so they could get licensed sooner upon graduating, said Anita Nicholson, associate dean for undergraduate programs.

Nicholson said the college also scheduled senior internships earlier than normal and created a program that allows students to gain hospital experience under a nurse's supervision. Those students aren't caring for coronavirus patients, but their work frees up nurses to do so, Nicholson said.

hp LOCAL & STATE

Photos provided / Steve Campbell

Berrien County Sheriff's Deputy Paul Grenon, above, is pictured with his K-9 partner, Maxx. Maxx is one of three Berrien County K-9 officers who have received bullet- and stab-protective vests from the nonprofit organization Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. The other teams are, top right, Dep. Brandon Crosby, with partner Blek, and on bottom right, Dep. Jason Haskins, with partner Mika.

Trio of K-9 police officers get protective vests

By JULIE SWIDWA
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — Three Berrien County Sheriff's Office K-9 officers will be safer at work thanks to a donation of body armor.

Berrien County Undersheriff Chuck Heit said the bullet- and stab-protective vests donated from the nonprofit organization Vested Interest in K9s Inc. will go to police dogs Blek, Maxx and Mika.

The mission of Vested Interest in K9s Inc., established in 2009, is to provide protective vests and other assistance to dogs of law enforcement throughout the United States.

The potentially lifesaving body armor for the four-legged officers is U.S.-made and custom-fitted.

Since its inception, Vested Interest in K9s has provided more than 4,100 vests valued at $6.9 million to police dogs in all 50 states, made possible by private and corporate donations.

The program is open to U.S. dogs that are at least 20 months old and actively employed and certified with law enforcement or related agencies.

Heit said there are an estimated 30,000 law enforcement K9s across the nation. He said Vested Interest in K9s Inc. accepts tax-deductible donations in any amount, with a single donation of $960 sponsoring one vest. Each vest has a value of between $1,744 and $2,283, weighs an average of 4 to 5 pounds, and comes with a five-year warranty.

For more information or to learn about volunteer opportunities, call 508-824-6978.

Vested Interest in K9s Inc. provides information, lists events and accepts donations at www.vik9s.org. Or, contributions can be mailed to P.O. Box 9, East Taunton, MA, 02718.

Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, Twitter @HPSwidwa

All tenants safe in Niles apartment fire

2 police officers treated and released

By JULIE SWIDWA
HP Staff Writer

NILES — Officials are continuing to investigate the cause and origin of an early morning fire at an apartment complex in Niles Township earlier this week.

Berrien County Sheriff Paul Bailey said emergency crews were called at 4:49 a.m. Tuesday to the Leisure Ridge Apartments in the 1300 block of Leisure Lane in Niles Township.

All tenants were safely evacuated, but two police officers suffered smoke inhalation, the sheriff said.

Bailey said crews arrived to find flames coming from one of the apartments, and those tenants had already left the unit. The sheriff said two of his deputies, along with a Buchanan police officer, were able to enter the apartment complex to evacuate some occupants were were asleep in nearby apartments. The two deputies were treated and released at Lakeland Hospital, Niles, for smoke inhalation they sustained during those efforts.

Responding besides the Berrien County Sheriff's office were Buchanan police, Niles Township and Niles City fire departments, Buchanan Fire Department, Southwest Michigan Community Ambulance Service, SEMCO Energy Gas Co., Indiana Michigan Power and the American Red Cross.

Bailey said the firefighters were able to extinguish the fire and had it under control at 5:41 a.m. The Berrien County chapter of the American Red Cross helped provide shelter for residents displaced by the fire.

Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, Twitter @HPSwidwa

Help needed to stuff MSP 'Blue Goose'

State police plan charity collection event this Saturday

By HP STAFF

NILES — The Michigan State Police Niles post is joining the Mosaic's Wonderland Toy Store, Helping Hands of Cass County, Redbud Area Ministries, Walmart and Meijer stores in collecting toys, gift cards and food for the needy.

The theme for the collection is "Stuff a Blue Goose" for the holidays.

The state police patrol vehicle has long been referred to as the "Blue Goose," and one will be stationed outside Walmart on South 11th Street in Niles and Meijer on Red Arrow Highway in Stevensville on Saturday. Troopers will volunteer their time to collect donations from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Items collected will be given to the above-mentioned charities to help families in the local communities. Mosaic Wonderland Toy Store needs toys for children of all ages and store gift cards valued at $50 or less for teenagers. Redbud Area Ministries and Helping Hands of Cass County need non-perishable food.

The Mosaic Wonderland Toy Store is an annual event that provides parents who are unable to afford Christmas gifts to enjoy a shopping experience and buy gifts for their children.

This is the seventh year the Niles state police post is holding this event. Anyone unable to be at one of the donation sights on Saturday can take their donations to the Michigan State Police Niles post.

Keeping a business green during a pandemic

Speakers address sustainable practices in online panel

By TONY WITTKOWSKI
HP Staff Writer

With so much uncertainty the COVID-19 pandemic has brought, sustainable practices have remained a key proponent among businesses.

On Wednesday, Michigan's Great Southwest Sustainable Business Forum hosted a panel discussion on the state of sustainability in Southwest Michigan.

Four panelists took questions and examined the current trends that will drive sustainable business in 2021, and the growing need to invest in sustainability and social justice as part of a local post-COVID economy.

Among the speakers for the forum was Ron Voglewede, global sustainability director at Whirlpool Corp.

Having spent 24 years with the appliance maker, Voglewede said the voice of the investor has been a revelation this year.

"It was surprising to see how much pressure came form our investor base and other stakeholders around the aspect of the environment," he said. "With the demands we're seeing in business and society, you all have an important role no matter what industry you're in. COVID has brought that to the forefront to really perform in this area. That is both heartening and scary because it is quite rapid. Everyone thought the focus on environmental would drop off, but it accelerated everything."

Voglewede sits on a sustainability forum that has representatives from several large corporations in Michigan.

He said it's been interesting to see the overwhelming positivity that has come out of those meetings, with a renewed focus on Michigan as a blue economy. Voglewede said it all starts from contributions on an individual basis.

"Sustainability on a planetary scale seems daunting. You have to take a fundamental step forward. All of us have a role to play in how we respond," he said. "It takes a little bit of courage to step out and start to support those things, whether that be local policies and activities from curbside recycling to solar energy."

Kelly McElroy, a senior nuclear engineer at Indiana Michigan Power, spoke about what she's come across since starting her podcast called "sustainaBiliME," which focuses on sustainable practices.

She said environmental progress has not stopped during this pandemic. McElroy joked about tossing out any goals she had in mind at the beginning of 2020.

"The biggest thing we're all having to do now is pivot. We're all adapting to our new norms," McElroy said. "What I talk about in my podcast is one person can make a difference. And that person can make a difference by putting themselves out there. At the end of the day, people do want to build back better. I think we do have the power to make really good change. Changing habits is a very hard thing to do. But this is an opportunity for innovation."

Brendan Molony, sustainability coordinator at Bronson Healthcare, said the health care industry has been consistently going through single-use gowns and masks.

He has attempted to find reusable materials, but there are a lot of factors that need to be considered by a hospital system.

"It's about collaboration and conversations. We're looking at redesigning our supply chain. This means talking with all our resources as a health care institution," Molony said. "With our local food procurement, we spend $2 million a year with local farmers. About 46 percent of our food budget is going to local people."

Art Toy, president of Four Elements Energy, Inc., has seen a shift the last few years as the majority of his clients have transitioned from lead-acid battery systems to lithium batteries.

He stressed leadership being the key in winning the region – let alone the state – over on sustainable practices.

"We all have a circle of influence among our peers and friend," Toy said. "We have to maintain that leadership of taking that risk of stepping out of that comfort zone in Southwest Michigan."

McEloy said the key to pushing sustainability will come after the pandemic, when large gatherings are permissible once again.

"My husband and I are craving in-person contact. Usually, when you're feeling that, you've got a lot of energy," she said. "I think we can harness this energy to really make a difference and be able to rethink and make new habits that are better for our environment. I think there will be a lot of good things to come with 2021."

Contact: twittkowski@TheHP.com, 932-0358, Twitter: @TonyWittkowski

IN BRIEF

Santa Claus visits Michigan to spread cheer amid pandemic

TRAVERSE CITY (AP) — Santa Claus has made his way to a Michigan city to bring some holiday cheer to children and families during the coronavirus pandemic.

Santa made his first stop Tuesday to Traverse City's central neighborhood, the Traverse City Record-Eagle reported. It is one of fours stops Santa will make while he is in town collecting North Pole-bound letters ahead of Christmas.

"It's something to help out the children and families a little bit, you know, with the stresses of the pandemic," said Jim Tuller, the city's fire chief. "An idea was born that maybe we could help brighten their day."

Santa agreed to spread some holiday cheer after the Downtown Development Authority asked for his help, Tuller said.

Michigan State to require students to live 2 years on campus

EAST LANSING (AP) — Undergraduates at Michigan State University will be required to live on campus a second year as part of efforts to help students toward graduating. A 2-year living requirement waived since the 1980s will be reinstated next fall, according to the school.

An analysis by Michigan State's Office of Institutional Research shows undergraduates who live on the East Lansing campus their first two years have graduation rates about 2.5 percentage points higher than those who live on campus only their first year.

The difference is nearly 10 percentage points for some underserved student groups, the school said.

Incoming students currently are required to spend their first academic year, which is made up of their first two semesters, on campus. Students living in residence halls now and the current 2020 incoming class will be exempt from the change.

The Herald-Palladium Editorial Board:
DAVID HOLGATE Publisher
DAVE BROWN Managing Editor
DALE BREWER Local News Editor
KATIE KRAWCZAK Design Editor

Life lessons from turkey stuffing

If you are as tired as I am of the cacophony of identity politics, you've come to the right place. This is a column about identity cuisine. And nothing says identity cuisine like something from the oven, namely turkey stuffing.

Pen Campbell
Opinion Maker

What constitutes "real" stuffing? (And yes, some people will be itching for a red pen to change every "stuffing" to "dressing." We have a word to describe those people. Wrong.)

The answer to that question lies not in a list of ingredients, but in the emotional imprint of the holidays. The holidays – those supersaturated times of joy and warmth, of traditions and trappings, of love and laughter. Or not. Whatever those holidays really looked like in our lives, they've shaped us. And the food of the holidays shapes us – and not just our hips. Its memory and influence lingers long after the last dish is dried and the last Tupperware burped.

The stuffing of my youth started with my baker father's superb white bread spread in the oven to dry. Thanksgiving morning, with the Macy's Parade on in the background, sausage filled the frying pan, followed by celery and onions. The dry bread in our biggest pot darkened with poultry seasoning. The stuffing of my youth followed the no-surprises rule. No oysters slithered stealthily into the mix. No giblet mystery bits disguised themselves as meaty sausage chunks, only to appall the taste buds and swell exponentially as they met the gullet. Just real stuffing that tasted exactly right.

It was this archetype of stuffing that followed me when I left home for college in Chicago. And it followed me a few years later when I found myself at college in Texas for Thanksgiving. Okay, maybe "I found myself in Texas" is a bit disingenuous. A bit Dorothy-ish. No tornados and falling houses were involved. It was my own fault. I followed a man to Texas. Never follow a man to Texas. He dumped me. Two days after I got there.

So there I was in Texas. It was Thanksgiving, and it was cold. It had been raining for 40 days and 40 nights. Approximately. I had no winter coat. It was Texas. It was supposed to be hot. I was alone and cold and wet and went to the dining hall for the Thanksgiving dinner being served to the 23 students bereft of family and friends (22 of whom had winter coats). When I saw the plate, I almost cried.

On it was humped one perfectly round scoop of obviously instant mashed potatoes. Next to it, two thin circles of turkey roll draped over something I couldn't see. All was slathered in a gummy sludge, almost fluorescent in its yellowness. And a vegetable, of course. The perfect complement to this culinary palette. Boiled cabbage. Limp. Pale. Squatting in a watery puddle. But the gastronomic insult was not complete. Nor had it cast its most crushing blow. At a table by myself with a good view of the rain, I placed a bite of the turkey roll in my mouth, only to realize I had inadvertently snagged what lurked beneath as well: a thicker, gummier glop, even more yellow, if possible, than the travesty of gravy. And it was gritty. And it was in my mouth. Growing. Doing my best to erase its memory with ice water and tears, I realized this gunk must be cornbread stuffing. I didn't find out for 20 years how wrong I was.

Twenty years later I was the Girl Scout coordinator of an in-school Scouting program in elementary schools. At the program's summer day camp, we cooked a turkey over the campfire on a tripod and prepared all the fixings for a Thanksgiving style feast. Emma, one of the adult presenters extraordinaire, fixed the stuffing. When she said cornbread, I shuddered. But I sat down to the table with that rare appetite that comes of spending the whole day outside and having someone else prepare a meal.

I took one bite of Emma's stuffing, and it changed my worldview. It was light, a toothsome epiphany of pepper and texture in my mouth. It had onions and celery and the poultry seasoning combination of my youth. This was the real thing. This was cornbread stuffing. Whatever they'd thought that was, that long-ago Texas Thanksgiving, they had been sadly mistaken. This was real cornbread stuffing. And it was fabulous.

It turns out we're not constrained to the first – or to the worst – version of a thing. Departure, revision, even somebody else's version of the "real" is a real possibility. I wonder if it works for anything besides turkey stuffing?

Pen Campbell lives in Benton Harbor.

LETTERS

PPP expenses should be tax deductible

Editor,

The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) was established by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to help small businesses survive during the early phases of the pandemic. Since enactment, over 5 million applicants have received forgivable PPP loans, protecting millions of jobs and allowing those businesses to stay afloat. In the CARES Act, Congress clearly intended to grant recipients of forgivable PPP loans the ability to deduct otherwise-deductible expenses associated with those loans for tax purposes. Loan forgiveness was clearly intended as tax-free to keep workers employed during the pandemic.

However, the IRS contradicted congressional intent by formally declaring that borrowers who expect their PPP loan to be forgiven cannot deduct the PPP expenses on their federal tax returns. Under the IRS interpretation, a business owner who use PPP proceeds to preserve payroll is unable to deduct the payroll and other ordinarily deductible expenses. Bills have been introduced in the Senate and in the House to fix this problem, but a solution could also be inserted into a much needed year-end federal stimulus package. Either way, it needs to happen quickly.

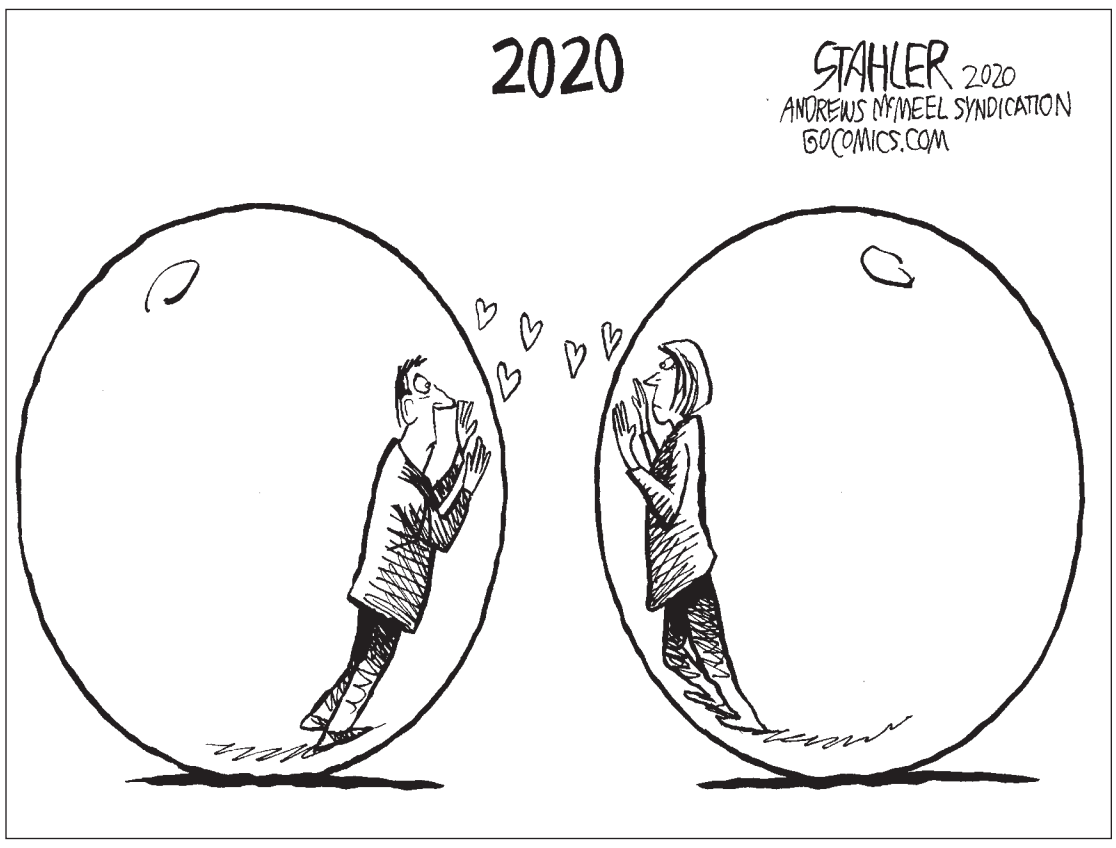
As active participants in the business community, we feel it is imperative to ensure that these same businesses are not subjected to additional and unexpected taxes as they continue to struggle to survive. It is obvious this pandemic is not yet over, and realization of congressional intent will provide a much-needed indirect stimulus through tax savings to the business owners who need it most.

Borrowers eligible for PPP loan forgiveness have spent the funds as the program directed. If those businesses are not allowed to deduct these expenses, they may be forced to spend additional funds to pay taxes on the loan proceeds – funds they may not have.

We feel that passing this legislation as quickly as possible will provide small business owners more certainty as they focus on year-end business planning which is especially important in these challenging economic times.

We strongly advocate the passage of legislation and urge immediate Congressional action to protect American businesses in these trying times.

Brian Calley, president of the Small Business Association of Michigan
Bob Doyle, president and CEO of Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants
Richard Lamb, president of the Michigan Press Association



Write us

Here's how to submit a letter to the editor:

Email: letters@TheHP.com

Regular mail: Editorial Page, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085

All letters should include a daytime telephone number and street address for verification. Letters must be 500 words or fewer. The Herald-Palladium reserves the right to edit letters for length, style, grammar, inappropriate content and libel. Anonymous letters will not be published.

It is time for us to break our addiction to Trump

Dear Colleagues:

Well, that was ... normal.

President-elect Biden slips while playing with his dog on Saturday and has to go to the hospital, where he is diagnosed with hairline fractures in the bones of his foot, necessitating a few weeks in a walking boot. The information is released in a businesslike and apparently transparent manner. No doctor even bothers to report that Biden was "a phenomenal patient."

Leonard Pitts

Indeed, so pervasive is the sense of adult competence that it even seems to infect Donald Trump. "Get well soon!" he tweets. And that's all he says. He doesn't even call Biden "Sleepy Joe" or tie the injury to some bizarre conspiracy theory.

Like a patch of blue in a thunderstorm sky, normalcy reappears. Yet even as one basks in the feeble sunshine of it, one wonders how long that patch of blue can last. The answer, of course, is not knowable. What is knowable, though, is that however durable it ultimately proves will depend in large part on those of us who report and opine upon the news for a living. Put simply: It is time for us to break our addiction to Trump.

As has often been noted, his 2016 rise to power was fueled in large part by what amounted to some $5 billion in free advertising – i.e., interviews, coverage of his rallies, stories about his tweets – from news media. Mind you, every presidential candidate benefits from this; Hillary Clinton enjoyed $3.24 billion in free coverage herself. But here is the distinction: Trump received wildly disparate media attention long before he proved himself a serious force in that campaign. Indeed, the disparity was likely crucial in making him competitive in the first place.

He drew media attention not because anyone thought he could win but because, against the likes of Jeb Bush, Marco Rubio and Ted Cruz, he was entertainment, comic relief. Reporters chased after him the way a puppy chases after a ball – and for the same reason; it was fun. As the saying goes, Trump gave good quote, was only too happy to spout the outrageous, the insulting, the ignorant and the offensive. Instead of treating his candidacy as we once did Dave Barry's – i.e., as a stunt – we treated it as if it was legitimate and, in the process, made it so. By the time anyone thought to subject him to the kind of scrutiny a "real" presidential candidate faces, it was too late.

Donald Trump is president in large part because we did not ignore him when we could have and should have, an option we lost on Election Day. What a president does and says --no matter how stupid --is the very definition of news.

What an ex-president does and says, however, is a different matter entirely. And therein lies an opportunity.

Not that Trump will make it easy. Unlike his modern predecessors, he will not go quietly into retirement. To the contrary, it's safe to assume that, from Biden's first day as president, Trump will seek to function as a Greek chorus of condemnation and criticism. Expect him to whip out everything this side of fireworks and air horns as he tries to maintain his place at center stage under the world spotlight.

Do not allow him to do it. The man is an attention junkie, but as our coverage of the 2016 campaign proved, we are all too happy to be his enablers. It is time to break this co-dependency. Yes, cover him when something truly newsworthy happens, but for the love of Cronkite, let's lose the habit of dutifully recording his every hiccup and twitch. The nation will be better for it. Journalism will, too.

After Jan. 20, we will regain the freedom we lost in 2016. After Jan. 20, we can choose to ignore Donald Trump.

Let's.

Leonard Pitts Jr. is a columnist for the Miami Herald. Email: lpitts@miamiherald.com.

GOP needs to find a way out of this mess

"How do we get out of this?" That's the question preoccupying the right these days. The specific "this" varies, but what unites all the concerns is the mess Donald Trump has made.

Jonah Goldberg

For Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, the "this" is the embarrassing mess in Georgia, where many gettable Republican voters believe there's no point in returning to the polls for the Senate runoff next month.

Hence one of the great ironies of 2020: For two years, Democrats falsely claimed that Republicans had stolen the governor's race from Stacey Abrams with "voter suppression." Now, because of the president's tantrum, Republicans are poised to give away two Senate seats – and control of the Senate – by actually suppressing their own vote with equally false claims of fraud. Even Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp, the Trump loyalist who defeated Abrams, is now said to be in on a conspiracy to hand the state to Joe Biden.

For the Republicans who'd like to be president, the "this" they're trying to extricate themselves from is Trump's captivity of the party.

In 2016, the GOP was trapped in a game-theory version of the parable – often attributed to Aesop – of belling the cat. It's in the collective interest of all the mice to put a bell on the cat, but it's not in the self-interest of any individual mouse to be the one to do it. Each Republican presidential candidate wanted Trump out of the race, but none wanted to volunteer for the political suicide mission to get rid of him – at least not until it was too late. By threatening to run again in 2024, Trump has put the presidential hopefuls in the same predicament they faced in 2016.

Even if Mike Pence, Ted Cruz, Nikki Haley, Tom Cotton, Josh Hawley and the rest actually believe the fawning things they say about Trump, none believe them so strongly that they would like to see him maintain his hold on the party and block their paths. But none of them want bell duty because Trump's ability to slaughter mice is far greater than it was in 2016. They helped build a better mousetrap and now have no idea how to dismantle it.

But "this" doesn't end there. As Trump and his apparatchiks pull the party down around them, they're lashing out not just at the democratic system, but at the right itself. Fox News (where I am a contributor) is now a hive of villainy in Trump's eyes for not reading from the approved script. The thinking seems to be that what America and the right need most in the years ahead is a right-of-center media fully committed to a definition of conservatism that begins and ends as a Trump cult of personality, eagerly trafficking in the conspiratorial phantasms that sustain the soon-to-be-former president.

Over the weekend, on Fox News no less, Trump lashed out at the FBI and Attorney General William Barr's Justice Department for possibly being in on the conspiracy to "rig the election" and for being "missing in action" in the effort to expose the crime.

And because Trump was dealt his biggest legal defeat by a Pennsylvania federal judge who, despite being an Obama appointee, is a member of the conservative Federalist Society, there's a growing murmur that the Federalist Society must be in on it, too. Of course, most of Trump's court picks are also Federalist Society members.

You can be sure that if Trump gets his wish in the form of a hearing before the Supreme Court – or a refusal by the court to give him one – the murmurs will become a crescendo.

Among many conservatives, Trump's destructive response to his defeat is seen as the problem. That is certainly a problem. But it's downstream of the original sin of embracing Trump in the first place. To borrow again from Aesop, it was clear he was a scorpion from the outset.

"Progress means getting nearer to the place you want to be," C.S. Lewis observed. "And if you have taken a wrong turn, then to go forward does not get you any nearer. If you are on the wrong road, progress means doing an about-turn and walking back to the right road; and in that case, the man who turns back soonest is the most progressive man."

The best solution to the right's predicament is to turn around and head back in the right direction they skipped in 2016. But politics is the art of getting the crowd to follow you. And the people who followed Trump down this path understandably fear that if they turn around now, nobody will follow them.

Jonah Goldberg is editor-in-chief of The Dispatch and the host of The Remnant podcast.

OBITUARIES

Norman R. Spencer

Dec. 16, 1931 – Nov. 30, 2020

Norman R. Spencer, of Sister Lakes, Mich., formerly of Hillside, Ill., passed away peacefully at his home in Dowagiac on Monday, Nov. 30, 2020.

Norman was born on Dec. 16, 1931, in Dowagiac to Royce and Margaret (Gramm) Spencer.

Norman was a proud veteran of the U.S. Army during the Korean War.

Norman will be missed by his children: Laura (Jerry) Creed, Lisa (John) Dziergas, Michael Spencer, Paul (Cheryl) Spencer, Peter (Eileen) Spencer, and Christopher Spencer; his grandchildren: Phillip, David, Julia, Emily, Michelle, Tim, and Natalie; his great-grandson, Jackson; and several nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Barbara (Pietrusinski) Spencer; his granddaughter, Bridget; his brother; and his parents.

Services for Norman will be held privately. Those wishing to leave an online condolence for the family may do so at www.clarkch.com.

Eugene F. Tutton

Jan. 15, 1936 – Nov. 27, 2020

Eugene F. Tutton, 84, of Coloma passed away Friday, Nov. 27, 2020, at Caretel Inns of Lakeland, St. Joseph.

Cremation has taken place. A memorial service celebrating his life will be at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11, at Duffield & Pastrick Family Funeral Home where the family will receive friends beginning at 4 p.m., until time of service.

Donations in memory of Gene may be made to the Coloma FOP Lodge 147 or Berrien County Animal Control. Those wishing to leave an online message of remembrance may do so at www.duffieldpastrick.com.

Gene was born Jan. 15, 1936, to George Sr., and Thelma (Stevens) Tutton.

His grandfather Dr. Henry V. Tutton founded Mercy Hospital became Spectrum Health Lakeland. Gene graduated from Benton Harbor High School in 1954 and on March 1, 1958, he married Joyce (McQueen) Tutton.

Soon after being married he went into the U.S. Army and served our country in Germany during the Cold War Era. In the early 1960s he began working at Bendix, now Bosch, where he was an engineer and eventually retired in 2007. Gene had a passion for flower gardening, fish tanks, all animals, especially chickens, and enjoyed mole hunting and playing cards.

Survivors include his son, Bryan (Leigh Ann) Tutton; and daughter, Lori Romeo both of Coloma; three grandchildren: Mikayla and Micah Romeo, and Brett Tutton of Coloma; one great-granddaughter, Desiree Romeo; and several nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews.

In addition to his parents, Gene is preceded in death by his wife of 59 years, Joyce, in 2017 and brothers: George Jr., and Jess.

Martha Neiman

July 19, 1939 – Nov. 26, 2020

Martha Magdelane Neiman of Bridgman passed away peacefully Nov. 26, 2020, at Hanson Hospice Center, Stevensville.

Her sweet memories will remain forever in our hearts. In lieu of flowers a donation in memory of Martha Neiman can be made to: Sarett Nature Center, 2300 Benton Center Road, Benton Harbor, MI 49022, phone 269-927-4832, www.sarett.org. Online condolences accepted at www.PikeFH.com.

Martha was born to the late Calvin and Ethel Myers on July 19, 1939. She graduated from Bridgman High School and married her high school sweetheart, Ronald George "Bud" Neiman.

Martha is survived by her children: Kim (Virgil) Neiman, Brian (Heidi) Neiman, Michelle (Michael) Neiman-Deschaaf; and grandchildren: Tyler and Eric Neiman and Otto Deschaaf.

Martha was preceded in death by her husband, Ronald George Neiman; and two older sisters: Evelyn Larson and Mary Myers.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Pike Funeral Home, Boyd Chapel, 9191 Red Arrow Highway, Bridgman.

John William Adams

May 25, 1923 – July 4, 2020

John William "Bill" Adams, 97 years, died on the Fourth of July, 2020, at the Woodland Terrace in Bridgman. His family, in an effort to prevent the ubiquitous and virulent COVID-19 virus from entering the facility, was Skyping to his bedside when he died.

He was born in Maysville, Ky., on May 25, 1923, to John Henry and Frankie (née Montgomery) Adams.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 72 years, Dorothy Margaret (née Weichhand) Adams, in February.

He is survived by his three sons: Michael William Adams, Stephen Lawrence Adams, M.D., and Gregory (Irmgard) Thomas Adams, Ph.D.; his four grandchildren: John Henry Adams, Ph.D., Stephan Helmut Adams, Michael Thomas Adams, and Christopher Joseph Adams; his sister-in-law Dolores (Priestle) Weichhand; and three nephews and a niece.

His brother-in-law, Harry Joseph Weichhand, preceded him in death; as did two nieces and a nephew.

As an only child, he grew up in Maysville, Ky., and Cincinnati, (Norwood/Deer Park). He graduated from St. Matthew's Grade School and Deer Park High School.

Proud of his military service, he joined the U.S. Army during World War II with the intent of becoming a pilot and was sent to Boston College for flight training as a member of the Army Specialized Training Unit with the Army Air Forces. Feeling toploftical after passing the eye exam, (he was bespectacledly worried that he would not qualify for pilot training because his "eyesight was not good enough"); he was then advised, at the very next station shortly thereafter, that he was "too tall to be a pilot"! During the surge in the war, he was sent to the battlefields of France. He was a member of the 26th Infantry in the Yankee Division of Patton's Army. Promoted to a squad leader on the battlefield, he also served as the Platoon's French translator. He recovered in an Army Field Hospital in France, and then England, and subsequently, San Antonio, for injuries sustained while in Europe. He was awarded the Bronze Star Medal, the Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB), and the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal (EAMECM) for his service in battle in France and Germany.

After his honorable discharge, he graduated from the University of Cincinnati (mechanical engineering) and spent stints at the Crosley Corporation in Cincinnati and the Elgin Watch Company in Kentucky before beginning his career with the Whirlpool Corporation in Marion, Ohio, Danville, Ky., and St. Joseph. He finished his career as the corporate director of manufacturing engineering for the Whirlpool Corporation.

He was blessed with an unquestionably inquisitive mind. As a mechanical engineer, he would incessantly ponder the how and why of the way things work. At age 95, he wanted to use a hacksaw to cut an insulated coffee cup in half in order to "understand its thermodynamic properties." Amazingly, he died with all of his fingers intact.

He was kin to the Hatfield's and the combination of his unforgettable heritage and his indelible memory made for some very never remissible times! Later in life, he was commissioned as a colonel by the governor of Kentucky in The Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels.

He was a wonderful and generous husband, father and grandfather. He doted on his wife throughout her final, difficult years, attending to her every need. He drove until he was 96, and he could often be seen helping her into the car to attend Mass with the schoolchildren at Lake Michigan Catholic, or to have dinner together while watching the setting of the sun over Lake Michigan. He was such a good sport that he even took his wife to their own, recently sold, home for her to buy items from her own estate sale!

He was kind to all, always had a pleasant word for anyone he met, and was willing, and able, to engage anyone in conversation. He loved all animals, and would stop to pet any, and every, member of the canid subfamily Caninae walking down the street.

In accordance with his wishes, he has been cremated and a private Latin Mass of Christian Burial has been held at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Bridgman, with the Rev. Arthur Howard as celebrant.

A Funeral Mass for both him and his wife will also be held at Guardian Angels Catholic Church in Mt. Washington, Ohio, where they were married well over seven decades ago (and they said it would never last…).

Interment will take place in the family plot in Mother of God Cemetery in Covington, Ky.

In lieu of donations or flowers, the family requests that prayers and intriguing queries be sent to heaven. He will certainly be there to spice up heaven and offer sage advice to any, and every, Blessed Soul.

Dixon Loiland Bieri

Dr. Dixon Loiland Bieri, 90, of Benton Harbor passed away peacefully at home Sunday, Nov. 29, 2020. He was the son of Ernest and Birdie (Loiland) Bieri.

He grew up in Stanley, N.D., where in high school he met his future wife, Lois Aileen Stenehjem. He earned his bachelor of science and bachelor of arts from the University of North Dakota and was a member of Lamda Chi Alpha.

Dixon and Lois married and they moved to Nashville, Tenn., in 1954 where he obtained his medical degree from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. They moved to Ann Arbor for his medical internship and he completed residencies in family practice and anesthesiology at the University of Michigan.

In 1961, they moved to Benton Harbor where Dr. Bieri established the first practice of anesthesiology in the Twin Cities. He served as chief of staff at Mercy Hospital and Anesthesiology Associates grew to a four physician practice.

Lois died just before he retired from private practice in 1993. He volunteered for Hospice at Home for 20 years. He married Dale Shrimplin Grimm in 1994.

Dr. Bieri was known professionally for his skill as an anesthesiologist and was appreciated for his compassionate care. His family, friends and colleagues valued his insight, generosity in solving all manner of problems, his excellent listening skills and his consistent down-to-earth kindness. He was good at telling jokes and had humor down to a fine science.

Dixon loved golf. He has been a member of the Point O' Woods Golf & Country Club since 1962. He was an active member of St. Joseph Catholic Church, where he served as a eucharistic minister, reader and weekly adorer in the Sacred Heart Chapel. He loved spending time with family and friends, and was an avid reader, debater of current events and bird watcher.

Dixon is survived by his wife, Dale; children: Elizabeth (Micheal) High of Tucson, Ariz., Joseph Bieri of Vicksburg, Mich., Jeffrey (Christine) Bieri of St. Joseph; stepchildren: Autumn Reinking of St. Joseph, and Robert Grimm of Aurora, Ill.; grandchildren: Alexandria Bieri, Kevin High, Rachel High, Phillip Bieri, Claire Reinking and John Dixon Bieri; great-granddaughter, Abigail Jo; sister, Jeanine (Robert) Peabody; and nephew, Trent (Amy) Peabody.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 2, at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 220 Church St. Burial will take place at North Shore Memory Gardens. Friends were able to visit with the family Wednesday at Starks & Menchinger Chapel.

Memorial contributions may be made to Evan Scholars Foundation. Those wishing to leave and online condolence may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com.

Karen Anne Dawson

July 21, 1942 – Nov. 25, 2020

Karen Anne (nee Timm) Dawson was born July 21, 1942, in Benton Harbor.

Karen died Nov. 25, 2020, in Chatham, Ontario, predeceased just 11 days prior by David Dawson, her husband of 18 years.

She is survived by her children: Charles Cromer (Karen Shearer-Cromer) of Doylestown, Pa., Steven Cromer of Newberry, S.C., Dave Cromer (Glenda) of Ypsilanti, Mich., and Elizabeth Hunter; grandchildren: Richard Cromer, Heidi Cromer, Chris Cromer, Michael Cromer, Megan Shearer and Kayce Shearer; great-grandchildren: Daniel, Savannah, Robert, Aaliyah and Mark; and by newly discovered sister, Janice Delatte.

She is predeceased by her parents: Marie and Roy Timm; and her brother, Robert Timm.

Karen was an avid reader, enjoyed bingo whenever she got the chance, and surrounded herself with photos of her family. As Karen wished, cremation has taken place. She and David will be interred together in Toronto when gathering restrictions have been lifted.

Death notices

John William Adams, 97, died July, 4, 2020. Starks & Menchinger Chapel, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Nicholas Beauregard, 38, of Niles died Dec. 1, 2020. Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Niles, 683-1155.

Lydia Blosser, 99, of Berrien Springs died Nov. 29, 2020, at Harvest Home, Berrien Springs. Allred Funeral Home, Berrien Springs, 471-3729

James M. Rodell, 74, of Eau Claire died Dec. 2, 2020, at his home. Bowerman Funeral Home, Eau Claire, 461-4241.

Martha Magdelane Neiman, 81, of Bridgman died Nov. 26, 2020. Pike Funeral Home, Boyd Chapel, Bridgman, 465-3239.

Esther Ballard Richmond, 97, of Hartford died Nov. 19, 2020. Calvin-Leonard Funeral Home, Hartford, 621-4101.

Ronald L. Szoke Sr., 73, of St. Joseph died Nov. 28, 2020. Starks & Menchinger Chapel, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Norman R. Spencer, of Sister Lakes, Mich., formerly of Hillside, Ill., died Nov. 30, 2020. Clark Chapel and Cremation Services, Dowagiac, 782-2135.

Eugene F. Tutton, 84, of Coloma died Nov. 27, 2020. Duffield & Pastrick Family Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Coloma, 468-6000.

Ronald L. Szoke Sr.

Sept. 5, 1947 – Nov. 28, 2020

Ronald "Ron" L. Szoke Sr., 73, of St. Joseph passed away Saturday, Nov. 28, 2020, at Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph.

A celebration of life service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, at Christ Lutheran Church, 4333 Cleveland Ave., Stevensville, with Pastor Martin Measel officiating. Burial will follow at Hickory Bluff Cemetery. Military rites will be provided by Stevensville American Legion Post #568. Friends may visit with the family an hour prior to the service.

Out of respect for the family and guests in attendance, masks and proper social distancing will be required. Memorial contributions may be made to Christ Lutheran Church. Those wishing to leave an online condolence may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com.

Ron was born on Sept. 5, 1947, in South Bend, to Gabriel Jr., and Julia (Molnar) Szoke. He graduated from Riley High School in 1965. Immediately following graduation, when only 17 years old, Ron got permission from his dad to allow him to enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He was stationed in Japan as a radio jockey.

Upon returning home, Ron married the love of his life, Thelma Kellner, on Oct. 6, 1973, at Our Lady of Hungry Church in South Bend. Ron held the title of shift supervisor at various foundries such as Alreco, Bosch and Warsaw Foundry. He commonly would have multiple jobs at a time to make sure that his family was always well taken care of.

His wife and two sons meant everything to him so he worked hard his whole life to make sure they had everything they needed. While the boys where in school, Ron and Thelma took great pride in being a part of the Lakeshore High School band parents' group, where they got to work in the concessions stand, and chaperon band competitions and field trips, but most importantly it allowed them to never miss an event their children were in.

Coming from a strong Hungarian family, Ron was known for cooking delicious and authentic meals. A staple dish that was always at family events was his famous potato salad, and also Hungarian cucumber salad. One of his favorite dishes to make for his family was tongue and rice, a recipe that was given to him from his mother-in-law.

Another hobby of his was collecting sports memorabilia. Ron was a former owner of a sports memorabilia company where he would collect and sell sports cards. During the winter seasons, one of his favorite things to do was to ice fish with his brother. Ron was an avid fan of the Chicago Bears, Notre Dame, and the White Sox. He was also a proud member and elder of Christ Lutheran Church.

Ron is survived by his loving wife of 47 years, Thelma; sons: Ronald, Jr., (Rose) Szoke of Carson, Calif., and Jeremiah Szoke of Chicago; grandsons: Oliver and Connor Szoke; siblings: Gabriel (Patty) Szoke, Rose (Tom) Mossell and Richard (Barb) Szoke.

He was preceded in death by his parents: Gabriel Jr., and Julia; and siblings: Dolores Leap, Albert Szoke, and Robert "Bob" Szoke.

Esther Ballard Richmond

March 17, 1929 – Nov. 19, 2020

Esther Ballard Richmond, of Hartford, was born March 17, 1929, in Onondaga, Mich., the daughter of Dwight and Evabelle (Byrum) Ballard.

Esther passed away at the age of 91, on Thursday, Nov. 19, 2020, at Bronson LakeView Hospital in Paw Paw.

After graduating from high school, Esther attended and graduated from Michigan State College (now Michigan State University) in 1950. She was part of the extension staff of the college, teaching young women how to become better homemakers.

Esther was united in marriage with Russell Alfred Richmond on June 13, 1953.

She was a substitute teacher for many years, teaching in the Hartford Public School system and helping her husband on their farm. Esther was a longtime member of the Hartford Federated Church, now known as the Hartford Bible Church.

Russell passed away on May 8, 2010. Also preceding her in passing was her sister, Nancy Ballard.

Esther is survived by her four children: Gary Richmond of Hartford, Lee (Randy) Richmond of Shoreview, Minn., Ann (Keith) Fisher of Toledo, Ohio, and Amy (Rob) Pohutski of Livonia, Mich.

Esther is also survived by nine grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; a brother, James (Carolyn) Ballard of Holland; three nephews, and a niece.

Due to current restrictions, the family will hold a private service in Maple Hill Cemetery in Hartford, where Esther will be laid to rest next to her husband. Pastors Benjamin Williamson and Keith Fisher will conduct the service.

In lieu of flowers, please give to either the church or to a charity of your choice. The family has entrusted the Calvin Funeral Home, Hartford, with arrangements. Those wishing to leave memorial condolences for the family may do so at www.calvin-leonardfh.com.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

1995 – 25 years ago

Ward and Bill Shuler of Baroda received the high production awards for milk and butterfat at the Berrien County Dairy Herd Improvement Association's annual meeting. For the DHIA reporting year ending Sept. 30, their 44 Holsteins averaged 23,988 pounds of milk and 868 pounds of butterfat.

1985 – 35 years ago

In celebration of 25 years of service to local service clubs as their pianist, Wilhemena (Billie) Naylor of Benton Harbor was honored Dec. 2 at a joint dinner meeting by the Benton Harbor and St. Joseph Kiwanis Clubs. More than 70 people attended the event held at the Benton Harbor Holiday Inn.

1970 – 50 years ago

Whirlpool Corp. has been selected by NASA to develop and supply the astronaut feeding system for its Skylab program. Dr. E. Allen Bailiff, vice president of R&E, said Whirlpool is proud to continue in this new phase of the nation's space effort. Whirlpool is currently the prime contractor for supplying the food and waste management system for project Apollo, and has been working with space feeding concepts since 1957.

TODAY IN HISTORY

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Thursday, Dec. 3, the 338th day of 2020. There are 28 days left in the year.

Highlight in history:

On Dec. 3, 1984, thousands of people died after a cloud of methyl isocyanate gas escaped from a pesticide plant operated by a Union Carbide subsidiary in Bhopal, India.

On this date:

In 1818, Illinois was admitted as the 21st state.

In 1828, Andrew Jackson was elected president of the United States by the Electoral College.

In 1833, Oberlin College in Ohio – the first truly coeducational school of higher learning in the United States – began holding classes.

In 1960, the Lerner and Loewe musical "Camelot," starring Julie Andrews as Guenevere, Richard Burton as King Arthur and Robert Goulet as Lancelot, opened on Broadway.

In 1964, police arrested some 800 students at the University of California at Berkeley, one day after the students stormed the administration building and staged a massive sit-in.

In 1965, the Beatles' sixth studio album, "Rubber Soul," was released in the United Kingdom by Parlophone (it was released in the U.S. by Capitol Records three days later).

In 1967, a surgical team in Cape Town, South Africa, led by Dr. Christiaan Barnard performed the first human heart transplant on Louis Washkansky, who lived 18 days with the donor organ, which came from Denise Darvall, a 25-year-old bank clerk who had died in a traffic accident.

In 1979, 11 people were killed in a crush of fans at Cincinnati's Riverfront Coliseum, where the British rock group The Who was performing.

In 1992, the Greek tanker Aegean Sea spilled more than 21 million gallons of crude oil when it ran aground off northwestern Spain.

5-Day Forecast for St. Joseph

Today	Tonight	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy
43°	34°	42° / 31°	40° / 30°	41° / 32°	40° / 33°

Local Outlook

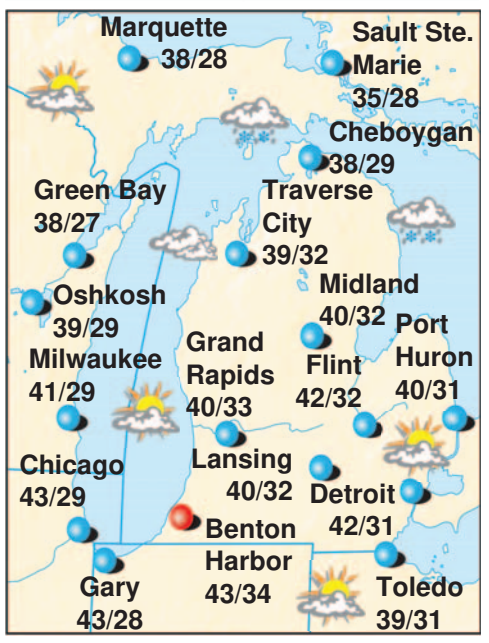
Today we will see partly cloudy skies with a high temperature of 43°, humidity of 63%. Southwest wind 11 to 16 mph. Expect partly cloudy skies tonight with an overnight low of 34°. Southwest wind 9 to 13 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 26°.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise ..... 7:57 a.m.
Sunset ..... 5:14 p.m.
Moonrise ..... 8:01 p.m.
Moonset ..... 10:54 a.m.

Last	New	First	Full
12/7	12/14	12/21	12/29

Regional Map



Local Almanac

Benton Harbor Yesterday

Temperature

High	45°
Low	22°
Normal High	40°
Normal Low	26°
Record High	62° in 2012
Record Low	13° in 2005

Precipitation

Yesterday	0.00"
Month to date	Trace
Normal for month	0.18"
Year to date	32.03"
Normal Year to date	35.51"

Air Quality

Yesterday 21
Main Offender ..... Particles

The higher the number, the greater the need for people with respiratory problems to reduce outside activity.

0-50 ..... Good
51-100 ..... Moderate
101-150 .... Sensitive
151-200 .. Unhealthy

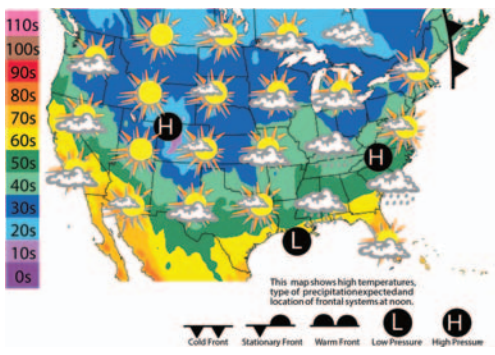
Weather Trivia

How much of the Earth is continually covered in snow? ?

Answer: Twelve percent of the Earth.

National Weather Map

Forecast map for Dec. 3, 2020



For latest weather updates: **www.UpdatedWx.com/HP**

Lake Michigan

Today, WSW wind 13 to 18 kt. Waves around 3 ft. Water temperature 44 degrees. Tonight, WSW wind 16 to 21 kt. Partly cloudy. Waves 3 to 4 ft.

Michigan Forecast

Upper Peninsula

Today, skies will be cloudy with scattered rain and snow, highs in the 30s. West southwest wind 13 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies Friday with highs in the 30s. West northwest wind 6 to 9 mph.

Lower Peninsula

Today, skies will be partly cloudy with highs in the 40s. Southwest wind 11 to 16 mph. Expect partly cloudy skies Friday with highs in the 30s and 40s. West wind 2 to 10 mph.

AFTERMATH

From page A1

But in the last weeks of Trump's presidency, the tenor has taken on an even more toxic edge as state after state has affirmed Biden's victory, judge after judge has dismissed his campaign's legal challenges and Trump's cadre of loyalists has played to his frustrations. As Biden builds the foundation of his new administration, Trump is commanding attention for the agitations he is likely to carry forward when he is gone from office.

"I do not think this goes away on January 20," Eric Coomer, security director for Dominion Voting Systems, said from the secret location where he is hiding out from death threats. "I think it will continue for a long time."

Tough beans, Trump lawyer Rudy Giuliani said of the state officials who are fearing for their safety.

"They're the one who should have the courage to step up," Giuliani said Wednesday in Michigan. "You have got to get them to remember that their oath to the Constitution sometimes requires being criticized. Sometimes it even requires being threatened."

For Coomer, the trouble began around the time Trump campaign lawyers falsely claimed that his company had rigged the election.

Far-right chat rooms posted his photo, details about his family and address. "The first death threats followed almost immediately," he told The Associated Press on Wednesday. "For the first couple days it was your standard online Twitter threats, 'hang him, he's a traitor.'"

But then came targeted phone calls, text messages and a handwritten letter to his father, an Army veteran, from a presumed militia group saying: "How does it feel to have a traitor for a son?" Even now, weeks later and relocated to a secret locale, Coomer is getting messages from people saying they know what town he has fled to and vowing to find him.

"It's terrifying," he said. "I've worked in international elections in all sorts of post-conflict countries where election violence is real and people end up getting killed over it. And I feel that we're on the verge of that."

This week Joe diGenova, a Trump campaign lawyer, told a radio show that the federal election official who was fired for disputing Trump's claims of fraud "should be drawn and quartered. Taken out at dawn and shot." This, as election officials and voting-system contractors in Georgia, Arizona, Michigan and elsewhere have been subjected to sinister threats for doing their jobs.

"Threats like these trigger an avalanche of them," said Louis Clark, executive director and CEO of the Government Accountability Project, an organization to protect whistleblowers. Of diGenova, Clark said: "It's behavior befitting a mob attorney."

DiGenova later said he was joking. The fired official, Christopher Krebs, wrote in an Op-Ed in The Washington Post: "My lawyers will do the talking, they'll do it in court. ... They're going to be busy."

As "Anonymous," former Homeland Security official Miles Taylor wrote a searing insider account of the Trump administration, prompting Trump to tell his rallies that "very bad things" would happen to this "traitor." Now Taylor's identity is known and he's been assigned a security detail as the Secret Service recommended because of the nature of the threats against him.

"This is unprecedented in America," Taylor said. "This is not who we are. This is not what an open society is supposed to look like."

PERMITS

From page A1

entertainment permits.

The current state restrictions are slated to remain in effect through Dec. 8, though it is possible they could be extended.

"Any licensed establishment that is in violation of the MDHHS emergency order will be held strictly accountable and risk suspension or revocation of its license," said Orlene Hawks, director of the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, in the release.

The state action stems from a St. Joseph Department of Public Safety investigation, from just after midnight on Nov. 22, when police went to the hotel to investigate a complaint that the hotel was allowing indoor gatherings and providing indoor dining, contrary to the state order.

An officer "could hear music coming from the licensed establishment while standing in the parking lot. The windows to the licensed establishment were covered preventing officers from observing how many people were inside the establishment. As a result, officers entered the licensee" around 12:15 a.m., according to the state report.

An officer saw 30-40 people eating and drinking alcohol and sitting around several tables, and "little to none of the patrons were wearing masks," police said in their report to the state.

An officer spoke with the hotel manager on duty, who claimed the gathering was for a wedding reception, which is allowed under certain circumstances. Another officer "then asked a random patron if they were attending a wedding reception. The patron denied that they were attending such an event. Officers issued a citation ... for violating the MDHHS order."

Further escalating the incident, the report states that the on-duty manager followed police to the parking lot, "and asked them to leave the premises, as it was private property."

The officer was having none of that, saying: "If you guys want to be a------s, then so can I," at which point police left, according to the report.

It isn't the first time the state has suspended liquor licenses during the pandemic. Since September, the MLCC has suspended the liquor licenses of six establishments, in Newaygo, Fremont, Fenton, Muskegon Heights, Conklin and Grand Rapids, for violations of the emergency and executive orders.

According to the state, the members of the public may file a complaint with the MLCC Enforcement Division online, or call the toll-free MLCC Enforcement hotline at 866-893-2121, to report suspected violations. MLCC's website, at www.michigan.gov/lcc, provides information on the MDHHS Emergency Order, indoor service restrictions, face mask requirements and Frequently Asked Questions for restaurants and bars.

To date, there have been more than 366,200 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Michigan, resulting in more than 9,300 deaths, the state noted in its report.

DINING

From page A1

past Dec. 8.

"Presumptions and generalizations will not suffice and should no longer be tolerated given the significant human toll they have wrought from closing restaurants for a second time this year," Justin Winslow said, referring to a shutdown in spring.

"We have ideas and reasonable solutions to offer," he said.

The association said approximately 2,000 Michigan restaurants have closed this year.

The health department, meanwhile, reported 6,955 newly confirmed COVID-19 cases statewide Wednesday and 81 additional deaths. Michigan's seven-day case average is down from 7,370 two weeks ago.

"The science is settled: Public health experts from around the nation and world say these types of actions must be taken to prevent the health care system from being overwhelmed by COVID-19 cases," Gordon said after the court decision.

The ban on dining has been met with some defiance. At least four restaurants have been hit with $1,000-a-day fines for serving meals indoors. Regulators also have yanked liquor licenses.

"We will be opening again after these parties feel like we have suffered enough and graciously allow us to get back to business," says a sign at the Mine Shaft and Rock House Grill & Tavern in Houghton.

Maloney considered the restaurant group's claims under the federal constitution but declined to address whether the law used by the health department violates the state constitution. The judge said he might ask the Michigan Supreme Court for guidance on that point as the case continues.

STORE

From page A1

which was held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Marijuana public hearing

Planning commissioners also announced that they will hold a public hearing on the proposed Marihuana Adult Use Establishments Ordinance, at 1 p.m. on Jan. 5.

The draft ordinance is available between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at the city clerk's office, 200 E. Wall St. It can also be obtained through email by calling Clerk Kimberly Thompson at 927-8408, or by emailing her at kthompson@bhcity.us.

An ordinance allowing medical marijuana facilities in the city was approved by city commissioners in December 2017. In July, they approved allowing recreational marijuana facilities locate in the city.

Planning commissioners need to recommend amendments to the city's zoning ordinance to the city commission regarding where such facilities can be allowed.

Contact: lwrege@TheHP.com, 932-0361, Twitter: @HPWrege

VACCINE

From page A1

and the science, supports shortening the length for quarantine for those exposed to the virus.

"To me one of the greatest things about the change in quarantine is the decreased disruption to families and maybe the increase in compliance if people are told it's 10 days instead of 14 days," he said Wednesday before news of the change.

Finance update

Lisa Ankenbruck, the health department's business manager, gave a finance report to the county health board.

She said that even though the COVID-19 pandemic created some declines in revenues and increases in expenses, the health department will carry a fund balance of about $1.4 million into 2021.

"We're in good shape," she said.

Ankenbruck said, to date, the department has spent a little over $1 million on COVID-related expenses.

Expenditures are up about 9 percent over last year, so far, with most of that being due to personnel expenses.

She said there were increases in the number of staff, salary, overtime, benefit rates and temporary help. Overall, added staff has cost the health department about $227,000.

She said state and federal grant revenues through October were up about 18 percent over budget, and about 79 percent of those total revenues were COVID-related.

Medicare, Medicaid, private insurance and clinic revenues are projected to end the year under budget by about $85,000.

"That's down about 14 percent from last year," Ankenbruck said. "We closed the clinic in March due to COVID for in-person visits, and that's definitely having an impact on our revenues this year."

Count update

The number of COVID-19 hospitalizations at Spectrum Health Lakeland rose again on Wednesday, to 67. That's up from 59 on Tuesday and 59 last Wednesday.

Berrien County recorded an additional 125 new COVID-19 cases on Wednesday, bringing the seven day average to about 106 new cases a day. That's down from 113 on Tuesday and 114 last Wednesday.

Health officials warned during the meeting that this dip could still be due to the Thanksgiving holiday. A few more days of data are needed to see if the curve is flattening, or if there is just a lull in testing and reporting.

Berrien County also recorded 44 new recoveries Wednesday. This brings the number of active cases in the county to about 3,703. That's up from 3,191 last Wednesday.

No new deaths were recorded Wednesday. The county still stands at 110 total COVID-19 deaths.

Johansen said the average age of COVID-19 deaths in Berrien County continue to be above 80, and more than 70 percent of the county's recent deaths have been residents of long-term care facilities.

Contact: anewman@TheHP.com, 932-0357, Twitter: @HPANewman

hp Visit The Herald-Palladium online www.TheHP.com

hp SPORTS

Could U-M cancel rivalry game with Ohio State?

Al Arend
Big Al's Picks

Could they? Would they? Should they?

Those three questions immediately came to mind when it was learned on Monday that Michigan's football program was taking extra virtual precautions against the coronavirus.

The thought of the possibility of Michigan using the virus as an excuse to cancel its game with Ohio State not only entered my mind, but a couple of TV sports analysts as well.

As everyone knows, Ohio State supposedly needs to play two more games (at MSU on Saturday, and hosting U-M the following Saturday) in order to have played the once-mandatory six games to be eligible to compete in the Big Ten Championship game on Dec. 19, and a chance to make the College Football Playoff.

Could they?

Sure, Michigan could cancel its game at Ohio State, citing the virus as its reason. On Wednesday, it canceled its home game with Maryland this Saturday for that reason.

Would they?

Yes, if it's absolutely necessary for the health and safety of all involved.

But most pundits would hint that decision as a sinister way of U-M getting back at Ohio State for winning 15 of the last 16 games against the Wolverines. Ohio State is 4-0 and rated No. 4 in this week's College Football Playoff rankings.

Should they?

If they did, it could be a public relations disaster for the University of Michigan, which until yesterday hadn't had one game canceled due to the virus this season. As of this writing (Wednesday afternoon), 10 of the 14 conference teams have had to cancel at least one game, some more.

Bottom line: The spread of the virus continues to grow at an alarming rate. And the health and safety of all is vastly more important than any football game.

But some coaches have already suggested that inferior foes have used the virus as an excuse not to play.

Idle thought

I find it hard to believe that if Ohio State doesn't play six games, the Big Ten won't change its stance on the matter and allow, say, a 5-0 Buckeyes team to play for the conference title.

The caveat if the UM-OSU game is also canceled is this: If the average number of games played for each team within the conference falls below six (which it undoubtedly now will), the Buckeyes could still qualify for the conference championship game.

High school playoffs

Continuation of the prep playoffs are slated for either Tuesday or

See **BIG AL**, page B2

Carlos Osorio / AP

Michigan quarterback Cade McNamara takes the snap during the second half of Saturday's game with Penn State.

Manuel: Michigan not avoiding Ohio State

COVID-19 outbreak forces Wolverines to call off Maryland game

By NOAH TRISTER
Associated Press

ANN ARBOR — Michigan athletic director Warde Manuel strongly rebuked any notion that the Wolverines would try to avoid facing rival Ohio State in the regular-season finale, calling the notion "ridiculous" and infuriating in a scathing statement Wednesday.

Manuel spoke hours after Michigan's game against Maryland this weekend was canceled because of an outbreak of COVID-19 in the Wolverines' program. The outbreak could also threaten Michigan's annual rivalry game against Ohio State on Dec. 12 – and the Buckeyes' chances to play for a Big Ten title.

Ohio State had to cancel its game last week at Illinois because of a spike in COVID-19 cases in its program. It was the second game the Buckeyes (4-0) have lost from their regular-season schedule. One more would leave them unable to reach a conference-mandated minimum to be eligible for the Big Ten championship game.

Earlier this week, ESPN analyst and former Buckeyes quarterback Kirk Herbstreit apologized after saying he

See **MICHIGAN**, page B2

Reagan Lunn, Duke Athletics (TNS)

Michigan State's Rocket Watts shoots during the Champions Classic vs. Duke at Cameron Indoor Stadium on Tuesday.

Point guards shine for MSU

Watts, Loyer have big impact in Spartans' victory at Duke

By CHRIS SOLARI
Detroit Free Press

Rocket Watts got the start and scored the most.

But Foster Loyer might have made the most impactful plays when Michigan State basketball needed it most.

Coach Tom Izzo said he made a shakeup at point guard for defensive purposes Tuesday as the 12th-ranked Spartans traveled to No. 8 Duke, inserting the athletic and bigger Watts for Loyer.

It worked on multiple levels. Watts scored 13 of his team-high 20 points in the second half, while Loyer came off the bench early and contributed several pivotal little plays that were massive in the big picture of the Spartans' 75-69 win at Duke in the Champions Classic.

"Let me tell you something, Foster Loyer acted like the captain and played like the captain," Izzo said. "He was Rocket's biggest cheerleader, he was ready to go when he came in. Some guys could have hung their heads and done this and done that. … It was kind of our peripheral guys that really played well made the difference in this game."

It was a shaky beginning for Watts, a sophomore in his first start of the season, and MSU fell behind, 13-3, in the opening five minutes.

The 6-foot-2 Detroit native was expected to be the heir apparent to Cassius Winston, but Loyer started the first two games.

"I mean, it's a process," said Watts, who made 7-of-16 shots and finished with three rebounds and two assists in 25 minutes. "This is my first year playing point guard on a big stage. I just got to work on taking care of the ball when they pressure me and don't get out of control."

"Let me tell you something, Foster Loyer acted like the captain and played like the captain. He was Rocket's biggest cheerleader, he was ready to go when he came in. Some guys could have hung their heads and done this and done that."

TOM IZZO
Michigan State basketball coach

While MSU already had five fouls in less than 3 minutes of action, Loyer replaced Watts and stood his ground defensively with a staple of coach Mike Krzyzewski's program.

The 6-foot junior took charges against Jeremy Roach with 15:01 left and another on Duke's next possession against DJ Steward.

He took a third charge with MSU up 10 and 50 seconds to play in the game.

Loyer also grabbed four of his career-high five rebounds in the first half and scored his only basket, a 3-pointer from the left corner, to pull the Spartans back into a tie with 3:14 left before halftime. He finished with five points but no assists in a season-low 15 minutes.

But Izzo said Loyer's presence on the bench was just as important as his role on the court.

"Don't downplay Foster Loyer's contribution," Izzo said "Not only as a player, not only defending, but also leading. He was phenomenal in those huddles."

Marble's moment

Julius Marble joined the playing group after not playing much in the first two games.

The 6-8 sophomore from Dallas had a show-stopping performance off the bench. Marble hit all five shots he took, including a deep jumper in the first half and a two-play sequence in the second half with a tip-in and a dunk to finish with a career-high 12 points.

"We're at Duke and I kind of hate Duke," Marble said of his dunk. "So to do that, it felt really good."

See **SPARTANS**, page B2

Livers, Michigan roll past Ball State

ANN ARBOR (AP) — Isaiah Livers scored 21 points on 8-of-11 shooting, Hunter Dickinson had his first career double-double, and Michigan beat Ball State 84-65 on Wednesday night.

Michigan 84, Ball State 65

Dickinson, a freshman, finished with 12 points and a season-high 11 rebounds. Franz Wagner added 14 points and Mike Smith scored 10 for Michigan (3-0).

After Ball State's Ishmael El-Amin made a layup to open the scoring, Wagner scored seven points – including the first four – in an 11-0 run that gave the Wolverines the lead for good. Dickinson made a layup to make it 34-14 with 5:39 left in the first half, but the Cardinals scored 19 of the last 25 first-half points.

El-Amin hit a jumper early just 14 seconds after halftime to trim Ball State's deficit to 40-35, but Michigan scored the next six points and the Cardinals got no closer.

K.J. Walton led Ball State (0-2) with 20 points.

The Wolverines shot 56 percent (33 of 59) from the field and outrebounded the Cardinals 41-26.

Paul Sancya / AP

Michigan guard Mike Smith (12) drives on Ball State forward Brachen Hazen (12) in the second half of Wednesday's game.

White Sox decline to offer contracts to RF Mazara, LHP Rodón

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO — The Chicago White Sox declined to offer 2021 contracts to right fielder Nomar Mazara and pitcher Carlos Rodón on Wednesday, sending the pair into free agency.

The White Sox also announced they had reached a one-year deal with reliever Jace Fry worth $862,500.

The 27-year-old Fry went 0-1 with a 3.66 ERA in 18 appearances with the team during the pandemic-shortened season.

Rodón was selected by Chicago with the No. 3 overall pick in the 2014 amateur draft.

He broke into the majors the following year and looked as if he could be a key member of the team's rotation for years to come before he was hampered by a series of injuries.

The left-hander, who turns 28 on Dec. 10, is 29-33 with a 4.14 ERA in 97 career major league games, including 92 starts. He made four appearances this year, going 0-2 with an 8.22 ERA.

Mazara was acquired in a trade with Texas in December 2019 for minor league outfielder Steele Walker.

The 25-year-old slugger was expected to fill Chicago's hole in right, but he hit just .228 with one homer in 42 games this year.

Wednesday was the deadline for major league teams to offer contracts to unsigned players on 40-man rosters.

Fry has turned into a valuable lefty in Chicago's bullpen, holding left-handed batters to a .184 batting average for his career.

He is 5-8 with a 4.75 ERA in 156 games over four seasons, all with the White Sox.

Cubs claim reliever Stock off waivers from Red Sox

CHICAGO — The Chicago Cubs claimed reliever Robert Stock off waivers from the Boston Red Sox on Wednesday.

Stock appeared in 10 games with Boston during the pandemic-shortened season, going 0-1 with a 4.73 ERA.

The 31-year-old right-hander was designated for assignment last week.

Stock was selected by St. Louis in the second round of the 2009 amateur draft.

The converted catcher made his big league debut with San Diego in 2018 and spent his first two seasons with the Padres, going 2-1 with a 4.11 ERA in 42 appearances.

The claim on Stock gives Chicago 38 players on its 40-man roster.

BIG AL

From page B1

Wednesday, Dec. 15-16.

Lakeshore (7-2) will take on top-rated DeWitt (9-0) at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15 at DeWitt.

The three-plus weeks playoff delay certainly hasn't been easy on any coach or team involved.

On with the forecast:

COLLEGE
Last week: 25-10, .714
Season: 264-83, .761
Tonight
Air Force 33, Utah St. 22
Friday
Appalachian St. 34, Louisiana 31
Boise State 42, UNLV 24
Saturday
Notre Dame 56, Syracuse 3
Ohio State 38, Michigan St. 20
CMU 34, Ball State 31
WMU 35, EMU 24
Penn State 41, Rutgers 27
Purdue 35, Nebraska 31
Wisconsin 28, Indiana 20
Alabama 49, LSU 21
Arizona St. 31, UCLA 28
Ark. State 42, UL Monroe 23
Buffalo 42, Ohio 31
C. Carolina 42, Liberty 31
Charlotte 28, Fla. Inter. 20
Clemson 49, Va. Tech 21
Colorado 32, Arizona
Florida 38, Tennessee 24
Georgia 42, Vanderbilt 10
Houston 28, SMU 24
Iowa 38, Illinois 27
Iowa State 27, W. Virginia 23
Kentucky 34, S. Carolina 21
Marshall 35, Rice 14
Memphis 38, Tulane 34
Miami 42, Duke 14
Missouri 31, Arkansas 27
Nevada 35, Fresno St. 27
N. Carolina 56. W. Carolina 10
N.C. State 28, Geo. Tech 23
Oklahoma 42, Baylor 21
Oklahoma St. 34, TCU 31
Oregon 38, California 31
San Diego St. 42, Colorado St. 34
San Jose St. 38, Hawaii 34
Texas 42, Kansas St. 31
Texas A&M 37, Auburn 28
Texas Tech 45, Kansas 17
Toledo 42, N. Illinois 28
Tulsa 34, Navy 24
Utah 34, Oregon St. 23
Virginia 31, Boston College 27
Washington 42, Stanford 31
Wyoming 41, N. Mexico 22

Al Arend is a sports correspondent for The Herald-Palladium. His weekly football predictions appear every Thursday throughout the college season.

MICHIGAN

From page B1

thought Michigan would wave a "white flag" and potentially avoid facing the Buckeyes, who would be heavily favored in their matchup with the Wolverines.

In a video released by Michigan, Manuel fired back, although he didn't mention Herbstreit by name.

"I think it's ridiculous," Manuel said. "I have to pause because my words, the anger – I was infuriated by the insinuation that Michigan would do anything other than play a football game. We've been playing this game since 1879 – 1879 – and we're the winningest program for a reason. Because we play whoever's in front of us. And the only way we want to keep anybody from moving on is to beat them on the fields of play. And to insinuate that, to say something other than that, is a statement by a fool."

Manuel wasn't finished.

"I can't tell you how embarrassed I am for the Big Ten Conference, to have one of their representatives who played this game, to say that about any team in this conference," Manuel said. "And to say it about college football and the student-athletes around this country who are trying to play games during a pandemic – it is ridiculous and sad."

Michigan has paused in-person football activities until at least Monday. Ohio State said the Buckeyes had resumed in-person football activities Tuesday, an encouraging sign that they will be able to play at Michigan State on Saturday.

For Maryland (2-2), it was the third time a game has been canceled this season. Matchups against Ohio State and Michigan State were wiped out last month after the Terrapins had 23 positive tests for COVID-19, including coach Michael Locksley.

NFL committed to finishing season on time

By BARRY WILNER
AP Pro Football Writer

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said Wednesday the league remains committed to finishing the regular season as scheduled.

Goodell also said on a conference call that while the NFL is considering a bubble format for the playoffs, it wouldn't necessarily resemble what the NHL and NBA used in successfully in completing their seasons.

"It will take partnership and discipline to complete this season. I'm confident we'll be able to do it," Goodell said, referring the NFL Players Association, the clubs and the players.

Added Dawn Aponte, the league's chief football administrative officer: "In terms of the guidelines we have used, our guiding principle is medical and we are trying to ensure we are playing all games safely. Providing we can do so within 17 weeks, that is what our objective is and will continue to be."

Goodell and Dr. Allen Sills, the NFL's chief medical officer, noted that a bubble concept can have many iterations.

"We don't see the bubble as most refer to it in one location," Goodell said. "We feel strongly that our protocols are working. We're willing to adjust and adapt those protocols, take additional steps. But I don't see us doing the bubble in the sense that the media focuses on it."

Sills pointed to the need "to recognize whenever we think about structuring something for the teams, look at the risks and benefits. There is no plan that will be completely risk free. We have to make what we think is the best and safest decision.

"All options remain on the table and will be driven by what the data show us. We have adjusted our protocols nearly every week."

Sills also stressed that the NFL won't be seeking any preferential treatment when vaccines become readily available. He emphasized that vaccines must first go to the front-line health workers.

"We want to obviously work with authorities," Sills said. "We never want to do anything that hinders the public health effort. If it becomes appropriate for us to have vaccines available for coaches and players and staff, and not hinder the public health effort ... then certainly we will consider that. We are in no way going to 'cut the line.'"

For Week 12, the NFL was forced to reschedule the Baltimore at Pittsburgh game from Thanksgiving night to Sunday, then Tuesday and finally Wednesday because of a COVID-19 outbreak among the Ravens.

Also, the Broncos played their regularly scheduled game with the Saints on Sunday despite having no experienced quarterbacks due to violations of the league's coronavirus protocols.

There's also been disruption to the Week 13 schedule because of the Ravens' situation.

Goodell said NFL protocols do not call for postponing a game because one position group is impacted by COVID-19, as happened with the Broncos.

"We will not postpone or reschedule games because of COVID-19 in a specific position group if we are comfortable the rest of the team is not at risk, which was exactly the case in Denver," he said.

"Let me be crystal clear, as we have been with our clubs since last March. Health and medical take precedence. We follow the facts, the science, and recommendations of our medical experts are first and foremost the bedrock of our decisions."

The most recent coronavirus testing showed from Nov. 15-21, 42,809 tests were administered to a total of 7,886 players and team personnel.

There were 28 new confirmed positive tests among players and 42 among other personnel.

For Nov. 22-28, a total of 42,264 tests were administered to 7,819 players and team personnel. There were 33 new confirmed positives among players and 53 among other personnel.

Sills emphasized that the league and teams learn from every result.

"I think those numbers suggest to us that our clubs are doing a terrific job of avoiding risk," Sills said. "Again, we know this is hard. We're certainly not out of the woods. But you can see the effects of the procedures we've put in place.

"I think the strategic decision to close the club facilities the last two days reflects that. We made that decision after a number of weeks of discussion based on the fact of potential additional risk of exposure during the holiday season last week. We're going to continue to monitor that. We'll obviously need to continue to evolve and to adjust based on what our data shows as we move forward, but we're seeing some very positive trends in the numbers."

Rodgers' 50th TD pass puts him in exclusive group

By JOSH DUBOW
AP Pro Football Writer

Aaron Rodgers picked apart Chicago's defense once again last week, throwing four TD passes to give him 51 for his career against the Bears.

Only Brett Favre has ever thrown more against the Monsters of the Midway, with 60 in his career. That is one of 16 combinations of a quarterback throwing at least 50 TD passes against one team in the Super Bowl era. Favre also had 58 against the Lions and 54 against the Vikings.

Rodgers has a ways to go if he wants the record against any team, which was set by Dan Marino against the New York Jets with 72 TD passes. Rodgers faces the Bears once more this season and would need 10 more games after that at his current pace of 2.13 TDs per game against Chicago to break Marino's mark.

Marino also threw 54 against the Colts and 50 against the Bills as he picked on his AFC East rivals to give three of those 50-TD careers against one opponent.

Rodgers has also thrown 50 against the Vikings and needs seven more against Detroit to complete the NFC North.

The other QBs with at least 50 TD passes against one team are Tom Brady (70 vs. Bills, 67 vs. Dolphins and 57 vs. Jets), Drew Brees (61 vs. Bucs, 54 vs. Falcons and 52 vs. Panthers), and Eli Manning (54 vs. Eagles and 53 vs. Cowboys).

Three for 30 club

Rodgers also topped the 30-TD pass mark this season with the four touchdowns last week giving him a league-leading 33 on the season. That puts him ahead of Russell Wilson (31) and Patrick Mahomes (30) in the first year in NFL history that featured three QBs with at least 30 TD passes through Week 12.

Rare company

The Cleveland Browns haven't been exactly dominating on their way to an 8-3 record. The Browns have been outscored by 21 points on the season thanks in part to lopsided losses to Baltimore and Pittsburgh and five wins by five or fewer points.

Among the 432 teams in NFL history to win at least eight of their first 11 games (or get at least eight wins in fewer games in shorter seasons), the only other team to do it while being outscored was the 1987 Chargers at a minus-8 point differential. San Diego started 8-1 that season before losing the final six games in a 15-game strike-shortened campaign.

Sacked

Philadelphia quarterback Carson Wentz is having a rough season three years after being an MVP candidate before suffering a season-ending knee injury. Wentz leads the NFL with 19 turnovers and has been sacked a league-high 46 times. The only players since 1996 to lead the NFL in both of those categories are Blake Bortles in 2015 and Jon Kitna in 2006.

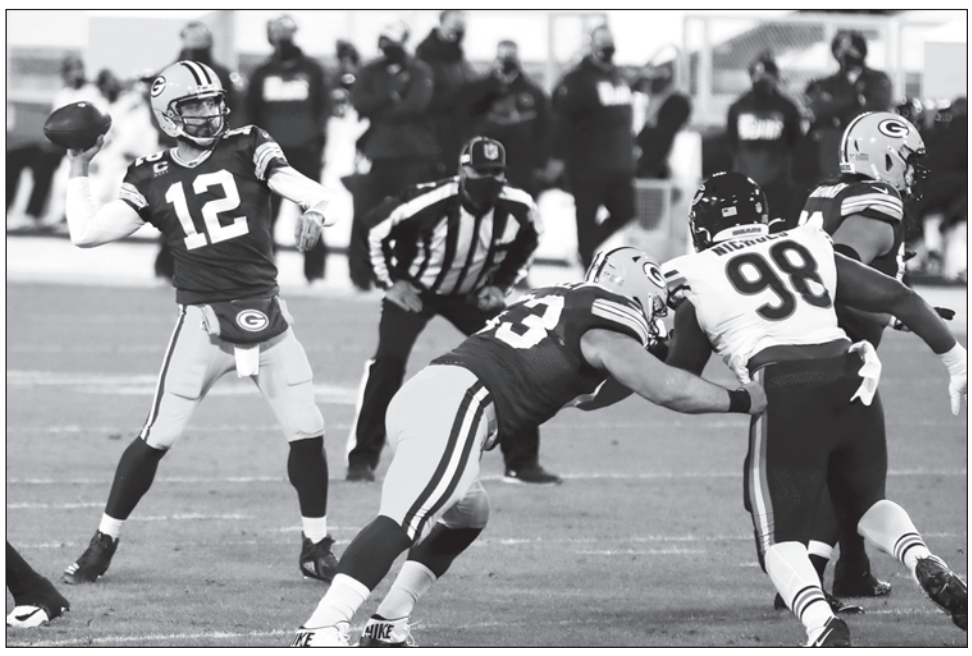
The last player to be sacked more than 46 times in the first 11 games of the season was David Carr, who was sacked 58 times in the first 11 games in 2002 and 50 in 2005.

Sacker

One of those sacks against Wentz came Monday night from Seattle's Jamal Adams. That gave Adams 6 ½ on the season, matching the career high he set last year for the Jets. Adams is the first defensive back to have multiple seasons of at least six sacks since it became an official stat in 1982.

Prime time

Russell Wilson got another prime-time win Monday night when Seattle beat Philadelphia 23-17 to improve to 29-8-1 under the lights. Wilson's .776 winning percentage in prime time is the best in NFL history among players with at least 20 starts, beating out Steve Young (.767) and Ken Stabler (.738).



Matt Ludtke / AP

Green Bay's Aaron Rodgers throws during the first half of Sunday's game against Chicago.

SCOREBOARD

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Buffalo	8	3	0	.727	299	282
Miami	7	4	0	.636	284	205
New England	5	6	0	.455	229	255
N.Y. Jets	0	11	0	.000	152	322

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Tennessee	8	3	0	.727	324	285
Indianapolis	7	4	0	.636	302	253
Houston	4	7	0	.364	268	297
Jacksonville	1	10	0	.091	227	325

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Pittsburgh	11	0	0	1.000	317	188
Cleveland	8	3	0	.727	265	286
Baltimore	6	5	0	.545	282	214
Cincinnati	2	8	1	.227	230	289

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Kansas City	10	1	0	.909	348	238
Las Vegas	6	5	0	.545	292	319
Denver	4	7	0	.364	209	298
L.A. Chargers	3	8	0	.273	277	300

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Giants	4	7	0	.364	214	253
Washington	4	7	0	.364	241	243
Philadelphia	3	7	1	.318	237	277
Dallas	3	8	0	.273	251	359

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New Orleans	9	2	0	.818	326	225
Tampa Bay	7	5	0	.583	344	280
Atlanta	4	7	0	.364	295	281
Carolina	4	8	0	.333	280	300

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Green Bay	8	3	0	.727	349	283
Chicago	5	6	0	.455	216	250
Minnesota	5	6	0	.455	292	305
Detroit	4	7	0	.364	252	328

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Seattle	8	3	0	.727	341	304
L.A. Rams	7	4	0	.636	263	215
Arizona	6	5	0	.545	304	258
San Francisco	5	6	0	.455	261	254

Wednesday's Game
Pittsburgh 19, Baltimore 14

Sunday's Games
Cincinnati at Miami, 1 p.m.
Cleveland at Tennessee, 1 p.m.
Detroit at Chicago, 1 p.m.
Indianapolis at Houston, 1 p.m.
Jacksonville at Minnesota, 1 p.m.
Las Vegas at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.
New Orleans at Atlanta, 1 p.m.
L.A. Rams at Arizona, 4:05 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Seattle, 4:05 p.m.
New England at L.A. Chargers, 4:25 p.m.
Philadelphia at Green Bay, 4:25 p.m.
Denver at Kansas City, 8:20 p.m.
Open: Carolina, Tampa Bay

Monday's Games
Washington at Pittsburgh, 5 p.m.
Buffalo at San Francisco, 8:15 p.m.

Tuesday's Games
Dallas at Baltimore, 8:05 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 10
New England at L.A. Rams, 8:20 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 13
Arizona at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m.
Dallas at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
Denver at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Houston at Chicago, 1 p.m.
Kansas City at Miami, 1 p.m.
Minnesota at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.
Tennessee at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Indianapolis at Las Vegas, 4:05 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at Seattle, 4:05 p.m.
Atlanta at L.A. Chargers, 4:25 p.m.
Green Bay at Detroit, 4:25 p.m.
New Orleans at Philadelphia, 4:25 p.m.
Washington at San Francisco, 4:25 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Buffalo, 8:20 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 14
Baltimore at Cleveland, 8:15 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

FOOTBALL
National Football League

ARIZONA CARDINALS — Activated WR Trent Sherfield from the reserve/COVID-19 list. Designated DL Leki Fotu and CB Kevin Peterson to return from injured reserve. Re-signed TE Evan Baylis to the practice squad.

BALTIMORE RAVENS — Promoted QB Tyler Huntley, RB Ty'Son Williams, TEs Luke Wilson, Sean Culkin and Eric Tomlinson, OL R.J. Price, OLBs Aaron Adeoye and Chauncey River, DT Aaron Crawford and LS Nick Moore to the active roster. Placed S Geno Stone on the reserve/COVID-19 list.

BUFFALO BILLS — Designated LB Matt Milano to return from injured reserve. Promoted WR Jake Kumerow to the active roster.

CHICAGO BEARS — Signed DE Tyler Clark to the practice squad.

CINCINNATI BENGALS — Activated G Xavier Su'a-Filo to the active roster. Placed WR Auden Tate on injured reserve. Designated CB Darius Phillips to return from injured reserve. Returned DT Freedom Akinmoldaun and WR to the practice squad. Signed LS Dan Godsil to the practice squad.

CLEVELAND BROWNS — Signed DE Jamal Davis to the practice squad.

DETROIT LIONS — Placed DT Danny Shelton and CB Desmond Trufant on injured reserve. Activated TE Hunter Bryant from injured reserve. Signed DT Kevin Strong to the active roster. Signed CB Alex Myres to the practice squad. Designated DE Julian Okwara and CB Darryl Roberts to return from injured reserve.

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS — Activated RB Jonathan Taylor from the reserve/COVID-19 list.

MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Activated WR Adam Thielen from the reserve/COVID-19 list. Signed LS Andrew DePaola to the active roster. Signed CB Tae Hayes to the practice squad.

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES — Activated TE Zach Ertz and WR JJ Arcega-Whiteside. Placed RT Lane Johnson on injured reserve. Signed CB Kevon Seymour to the practice squad.

No. 2 Irish earn spot in ACC title game

By RALPH D. RUSSO
AP College Football Writer

No. 2 Notre Dame wrapped up a spot in the Atlantic Coast Conference championship game by virtue of the league shuffling its schedule Tuesday to create an open date for the Fighting Irish and No. 4 Clemson before their likely rematch on Dec. 19.

The ACC announced Notre Dame's game against Wake Forest, which was rescheduled for Dec. 12 after being postponed in late September, will not be played.

The first-place Irish (9-0, 8-0 ACC) host Syracuse on Saturday to complete their regular season. Notre Dame holds all possible tiebreakers over title game contenders Clemson (8-1, 7-1) and Miami (7-1, 6-1) even if it loses to Syracuse.

The Tigers can clinch a spot in the championship game with a victory at Virginia Tech on Saturday.

Notre Dame beat Clemson at South Bend, Indiana, last month in double overtime and both are well positioned to make the College Football Playoff if they enter the ACC title game without another blemish on their records.

A Clemson victory in the rematch could send both to CFP semifinals.

Normally an independent in football, Notre Dame joined the ACC this season after the pandemic forced major college football conferences to drastically alter their schedules.

No. 9 Miami could still earn a spot in the ACC championship game if Clemson were to lose.

The Hurricanes play at Duke on Saturday.

SPARTANS

From page B1

And he did his damage after spending the previous few days on MSU's scout team pretending to be one of Duke's big men.

"I knew a little bit more than I would have if I was on the first team because I studied the players, I knew all their tendencies and stuff like that. So it did help with that," said Marble, whose previous high was nine points twice last season. "I wasn't going out there trying to get a basket or this and that, I was just trying to do my role. It just so happened I was able to score some points and be a spark off the bench."

Hall's mark

Sophomore forward Malik Hall had a strong showing last year against Duke with nine points and eight rebounds in MSU's 87-75 home loss.

This time, he upped it to finish with 10 points and a career-high 10 rebounds in a personal-best 29 minutes. Hall also had a pair of assists.

"That's one of my best friends on the team," Marble said of Hall. "We're roommates, too, so it was good to go out there with your roommate. And it's even better to play good with your roommate and then come out with the win."

Odds and ends

MSU is now 4-6 all-time in the Champions Classic. It was their first win over Duke in four tries in the event, as well as the Spartans' first win in four games at Cameron Indoor Stadium. The game was moved there after the original game Nov. 10 in Chicago was postponed. … Izzo is now 3-12 all-time against Krzyzewski, but his Spartans have won two of the last three meetings that have come 20 months apart. That includes the win in the 2019 Elite Eight that sent MSU to Izzo's eighth Final Four, which is three more than Duke's coach has been to since 1996, Izzo's first year.

PRIME TIME TV

THURSDAY EVENING DEC. 3

	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30
ABC 7 13 41 57	Wheel of Fortune	Station 19 "We Are Family" (N) CC		Grey's Anatomy (N) CC		:01 A Million Little Things (N)	
CBS 2 3 22	Ent. Tonight	Young Sheldon	:31 B Positive	:01 Mom (N) CC	The Unicorn (N)	Star Trek: Discovery (N) CC	
NBC 5 8 16	Ac. Hollywood	The Voice (N) CC		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit (N)		Dateline NBC (N) CC	
FOX 17 222 28 32	NFL Pregame	NFL Football Dallas Cowboys at Baltimore Ravens. (N) (L)					
PBS 34	John Denver: Country Roads: Live in England CC			Dolly Parton: I Will Always Love You (My Music) CC			Stevie Nicks
CW 25	Big Bang Theory	iHeartRadio Jingle Ball Greatest		Funniest Animals	Funniest Animals	News	Seinfeld CC
MNT 50	Family Feud	Dateline "At Close Range" CC		Dateline A teen is killed during a party.		Law & Order: Criminal Intent CC	
WCIU 26	Mike & Molly	iHeartRadio Jingle Ball Greatest		Funniest Animals	Funniest Animals	King of Queens	King of Queens
WHME 46	:00 Heartland	Unsung Heroes-Female Patriots		Unsung Heroes-Female Patriots		Nightly News	
WGN 9	News	black-ish CC	black-ish	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	WGN News at Nine (N) (L) CC	
A&E	:00 The First 48	The First 48 Presents Critical		The First 48 (N) CC		:01 Killer Cases "The Doctor Is Dead" (N)	
AMC	National Lamp.	Elf ('03, Children's) Will Ferrell, James Caan, Bob Newhart. CC				Elf ('03) Will Ferrell. CC	
Animal	Catch	Deadliest Catch		Deadliest Catch		Deadliest Catch	
BET	6:00 The Nutty Professor			Nutty Professor II: The Klumps			
Big Ten	TBA	College Basketball Teams TBA. CC				B1G	Iowa
Bravo	Southern Charm	Southern Charm (N) CC		Southern Charm Charleston reopens.		Watch What	Southern Charm
Cartoon	Teen	Gumball	Gumball	Burgers	Burgers	American	American
Cinemax	Lovely Bones	Cold Pursuit ('19, Action) Liam Neeson, Tom Bateman, Tom Jackson. CC				Before the Devil Knows You're Dead	
CMT	Last Man	Beverly Hills Cop ('84) Eddie Murphy.					Beverly II
CNBC	S. Smith	Shark Tank		Shark Tank CC		Shark Tank	
CNN	OutFront	Anderson Cooper		Cuomo Prime Time		CNN Tonight	
Comedy	:45 The Office CC	Office		Office	Office	Office	Office
Discovery	:00 BattleBots	BattleBots "Return of the Bots" ((SP)) (N) CC				Rocket Around the Xmas Tree CC	
Disney	Raven	Jessie CC		Jessie	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Bunk'd
DIY	Tree	Flea	Flea	Flea	Flea	Flea	Flea
E!	Total	Total Bellas CC		Total Bellas (N)		Total Bellas CC	
ESPN	College Basketball			College Basketball Teams TBA. (N) (L)			
ESPN2	Women's College Basketball			Basket	College Basketball		
ESPNC	Football	College Football				College Football	
Food	Beat Flay	Christmas Cookie		Christmas Cookie		Christmas Cookie	
Fox News	The Story	Tucker Carlson		Hannity (N) CC		The Ingraham Angle	
Fox Sports	Roasting	College Hockey Minnesota at Michigan State. (N) (L)					Red
Freefrm	5:50 Home Alone ('90)		:20 Home Alone 2: Lost in New York ('92, Children's) Macaulay Culkin, Joe Pesci. CC				
FX	Neighbors 2	Night School ('18) Kevin Hart. A student puts up with a feisty teacher at night school. CC					Night School
Golf	LPGA Golf		PGA Tour Golf Mayakoba Golf Classic, First Round.				
Hallmark	Holiday Date ('19)	If I Only Had Christmas ('20) Candace Cameron Bure, Warren Christie. CC				Christmas Waltz ('20) CC	
HBO	Underwater	Between the World and Me CC			:21 The Family Man ('00) Nicolas Cage. CC		
History	Swamp	Swamp People: Ser		Swamp People: Serpent Invasion (N)			
HGTV	Flipping	Flip.-America		Flip	Flip	Hunters	Hunt Intl
Learning	Dr. Pim	Dr. Pimple Popper		Dr. Pimple Popper		When Skin Goes	
Lifetime	Jingle Belle ('18)	Merry Liddle Christmas ('19, Romance) Kelly Rowland, Thomas Cadrot. CC				Merry Liddle Christmas Wedding ('20)	
MSNBC	ReidOut	All In With		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word	
MTV	Jersey	Jersey Shore		Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.
NBCSCH	Bulls	White Sox Rewind					
NFL	NFL Pregame		:20 NFL Football Dallas Cowboys at Baltimore Ravens.				
Nick	Top Elf	Un	Sponge.	Sheldon	Sheldon	Sheldon	Friends
NGEO	Life Be	Life Below Zero		Life Below Zero (N)		Cursed Places-Map	
Oxygen	:00 Snapped	Buried in the Backyard (N) CC		Injustice With Nancy Grace (N)		Snapped The tragic murder of Selena.	
Parmt	:00 The Dark Knight Rises ('12, Action) Christian Bale. CC						
Showtime	Shameless	Shameless "Requiem for a Slut"		The Humanity Bureau ('17) Nicolas Cage. (P). CC			:35 Moonbase 8
Starz	:11 Here Comes the Boom ('12) Kevin James. CC			Armored ('09) Matt Dillon, Jean Reno. CC			:32 Hofa ('92)
STZENC	:11 Behind Enemy Lines ('01) Owen Wilson. CC			Men in Black 3 ('12, Action) Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Josh Brolin. CC			
SyFy	6:30 Casper ('95)			The Goonies ('85, Children's) Sean Astin. Young misfits find a 17th-century pirate's treasure map.			
TBS	Seinfeld "The Pie"	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory
TCM	Alert Today: Alive	Baby Face ('33, Drama) Barbara Stanwyck. CC			Employees' Entrance ('33) Warren William. CC		
TMC	6:00 Colors	Shaft ('00, Action) Samuel L. Jackson. CC			:40 Rules of Engagement ('00) Tommy Lee Jones.		
TNT	:00 Bones	Fast & Furious 6 ('13) Vin Diesel. CC					Transfrmr
Travel	Ghost	Ghost Adventures "Destitute and Damned"				The Holzer Files (N)	
TV Land	Andy G.	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond
USA	Chrisley Knows	Chrisley Knows	Chrisley Knows	Chrisley Knows	Chrisley Knows	Chrisley Knows	:31 Miz & Mrs (N)
VH1	Martin	Think Like a Man Too ('14) Adam Brody.					About
WGN-A	Last Man Standing	NewsNation (N) (L) CC		NewsNation (N) (L) CC		NewsNation (N) (L) CC	

Friends are short on sympathy after possible covid exposure

Jeanne Phillips
Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My husband came down with COVID and has been having a hard time getting over it. When he first started showing the symptoms, I took him to a drive-through medical clinic and got him tested for COVID. The results were negative, so a couple of days later, I carpooled with a friend to another friend's house where seven other friends had gathered. Several days later, when my husband still wasn't improving, I took him to an ER where they did another COVID test. This time it came out positive.

I thought I owed it to whomever I was around at the get-together to tell them about my husband. At this get-together, we all wore masks. We took them off only to eat and then put them back on. It has been more than 14 days since my husband got sick, and although he is not yet over the virus, I haven't come down with it.

I thought my friends would be supportive of me and what my husband is going through. However, I learned from one of these "friends" of more than 20 years that they formed a private Facebook group to discuss how each one has been doing on a daily basis, and I was not invited to participate. I feel betrayed by these paranoid friends. At this point, I don't think I can ever look at any of them the same way. I have been contemplating ending my friendship with all of them. What do you think? – Kicked When Down In Oklahoma

DEAR KICKED: I think you should ask the friend who told you about the private Facebook group whether any of the women got sick after that get-together. If the answer is yes, make an appointment and have yourself COVID-tested – twice, if necessary – to ensure that you are not a symptomless carrier. If it turns out that you are positive, tell your friends.

If you test negative, your first priority should be to help your husband get well and protect yourself from getting the virus. As to whether you should end your relationship with these "distanced" friends, from the way they are behaving, it appears they may have ended their relationship with YOU, and for that you have my sympathy.

DEAR ABBY: I recently had my hair dyed by my brother-in-law who is a great hairstylist. I have seen his work on other clients, and he knows what he's doing. I have received a lot of compliments on my new "do."

Problem is, I didn't get what I ASKED for. I was a coward at the time and didn't speak up. Now my roots are starting to show, and I'll be needing a touch-up soon. How do I go about going to another salon for what I want without hurting his feelings or causing hard feelings with my sister-in-law? – Coward In Kansas

DEAR COWARD IN KANSAS: Make the appointment and have your hair done the way you prefer. If your sister- or brother-in-law asks about it, say you know he is terrific and how busy he is and didn't want to "impose" further. If he's as good as you say he is, he will notice that the color is different from what he used on you.

You're not a coward for wanting to spare your BIL's feelings. You do a disservice to him, however, as a professional for not being truthful about your opinion of his work on you. If he mentions it, explain that this is a color you are more comfortable with. Your head, your choice.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Recording mom's stories is likely to be dicey

Carolyn Hax

DEAR CAROLYN: My dad died last year, and I wish I could give him one more hug, take another picture of him with my kids, record him talking about his childhood or my parents' marriage.

I want to do better now with my mom. But I cannot figure out how to change patterns and take more pictures or recordings. She hates having her picture taken, and any reason I can think of for recording her is, basically, "When you're gone, I want to be able to hear your voice."

Ten years ago, it would've been fine, but now she's in her early 80s and, since Dad died, has become very averse to any reference to her death, even implied. Any ideas? – Avoiding Regret

DEAR AVOIDING REGRET: Say you want to record her stories and recollections of family history to share with the rest of the family.

If even that is dicey, then say you're recording everyone's recollections, age notwithstanding. Then do it – record everyone. What a great project. And everyone's mortal, right?

A FEW READERS' THOUGHTS:

■ Do you have collections of old photos – especially when she was young? Ask if you can record her talking about them, so you know who the people in the photos are. Needless to say, this will also mean a lot of talking about her own life.

■ Actively look for opportunities to turn on your phone's video – for example, a cute reading to your kids, having an impromptu singalong. Capture these intimate everyday moments as well.

■ My siblings and I did this. Definitely make it *your* project/hobby ("Can you help me out with something, Mom?"). Send your kids to ask the questions – she may open up to a grandkid in ways she won't to you. Also, consider having a book or other guide to help you ask questions. For a variety of reasons, we found people were more open to answering questions that came from a book (authority) than directly (nosiness).

■ Look into StoryCorps's Great Thanksgiving Listen: They have an app, suggested questions for different topics and relationships, and guide you through interviewing people. I will never regret interviewing family, regardless of the awkwardness of the ask, which is less awkward if you ask everyone!

REGARDING REGRET: Pointing out to your mom that she will die soon and you want to hear her voice afterward, so you need her to record something for you ... some moms would genuinely find that kind of creepy. – Creeped

DEAR CREEPED: Of course, which is why we're talking about different ways to frame it, but any time I can encourage us all not to get creeped out by our mortality, I will.

REGARDING REGRET: That's what bothers me about this discussion – it presumes Mom has to be tricked into this, or that she can be, or that she needs to be forced to face her own mortality – of which, by every indication, she is well aware, she just doesn't want to talk about it.

Why are her needs and desires subordinate here? – Bothered

DEAR BOTHERED: Her desires are not subordinate: We're discussing ways to invite her to participate that respect her desire not to discuss her mortality. And if she refuses to be recorded, then, end of story.

Email Carolyn Hax at tellme@washpost.com, follow her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/carolyn.hax or chat with her online at noon each Friday at www.washingtonpost.com.

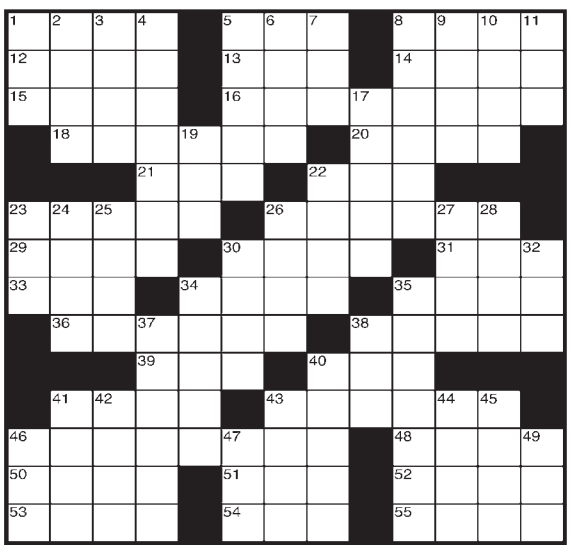
CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Splendor
5 Units of wt.
8 Cavity detector (hyph.)
12 Petri dish contents
13 Pleased sigh
14 Atmosphere
15 Spunky movie princess
16 Certain T-shirt style (2 wds.)
18 Omitted, in speech
20 Diner special
21 Almost grads
22 Harmful
23 Leafy vines
26 Online features
29 Deficit
30 Bossy's offspring
31 Passe
33 Dutch airline
34 Buffoon
35 Tien Shan range
36 Flee
38 Makes eager
39 Finish the cupcakes
40 Daisy — Scragg
41 Stoic founder
43 Tend the aquarium
46 Diamond feature
48 Rank above marquis
50 Prince Charles' sister
51 Musical notes
52 Not resist
53 Bambi, e.g.
54 Glimpse
55 Lose color

DOWN
1 Companion
2 S-shaped molding
3 Weekday delivery
4 Pats on the back
5 Tightens
6 Medieval entertainer
7 That woman
8 "Kubla Khan" locale
9 Regrets
10 Cats do it
11 Chatter
17 Pier
19 Rx givers
22 String tie
23 Class
24 Mouse kin
25 Beliefs
26 Rattle
27 Lawn pest
28 Thin strip
30 Rise to the occasion
32 Insult
34 BLT part
35 In front (2 wds.)
37 Hearth residue
38 Clash of arms
40 In disorder
41 Big name in Western novels
42 Marine bird
43 On the double
44 Brass instrument
45 Used sparingly
46 Came down with
47 Ernie of the PGA
49 Iris locale

Answer to Previous Puzzle

	G	A	L	A				L	I	V	E	S
M	A	C	A	W	S		L	O	R	E	N	A
A	T	T	I	L	A		O	S	I	R	I	S
N	E	S	T		G	A	B		S	A	D	
				R	A	B	B	I				
N	A	C	H	O		S	Y	D	N	E	Y	
T	R	A	I	T				E	A	S	E	L
H	E	N	N	A				A	P	P	L	E
	A	S	T	R	O	S		L	A	Y	L	A
				Y	A	R	D	S				
	O	P	T		K	O	A		D	U	P	E
K	A	R	A	T	E		R	E	A	R	E	D
W	H	I	T	E	N		K	A	N	S	A	S
H	U	M	A	N			T	E	A	K		



12-3 © 2020 UFS, Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS

JUMBLE

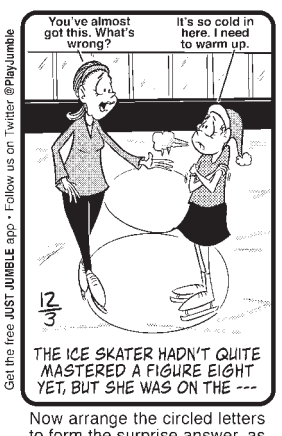
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

OBRNI

NKRAC

TURIMA

RFDIBO


You've almost got this. What's wrong?
It's so cold in here. I need to warm up.
THE ICE SKATER HADN'T QUITE MASTERED A FIGURE EIGHT YET, BUT SHE WAS ON THE ---

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

©2020 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved.

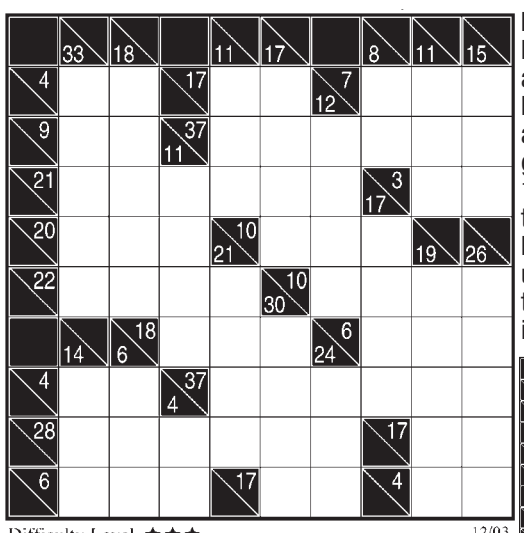
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print your answer here: " ○○○○ - ○○○○ "

(Answers tomorrow)

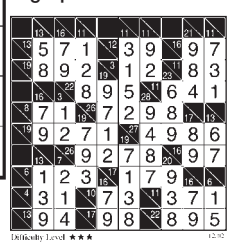
Yesterday's Jumbles: SCOUR TEMPO EFFECT BONNET
Answer: The podiatrist was looking at the X-ray results and making some — FOOTNOTES

KAKURO



Difficulty Level ★★★ 12/03

How to play: Numbers above the slash are across clues; numbers below the slash are down clues. The goal is to enter digits 1-9 in the white cells to add up to the number clues. You cannot use any digit more than once when adding up to a clue.



BRIDGE

Don Marquis, a dramatist, humorist, journalist and poet who died in 1937, said, "I never think at all when I write. Nobody can do two things at the same time and do them both well."

That is interesting – but how did he decide what words to put onto the paper?

When you are the declarer, you should worry about all four suits, though occasionally one or two will look after themselves. What about today's deal? How should South play in five diamonds after West leads a top-of-nothing spade seven?

If the vulnerability were different, perhaps West would have continued with five spades over five diamonds. Note that five spades goes down two, which is fine except when vulnerable against nonvulnerable opponents.

Declarer ruffed the spade on the board, led a trump to his hand, ruffed his last spade and played a club to his king. West won with his ace – gulp one – and returned the club 10 – gulp two. Now, when East got in with his heart king, he cashed the club jack to defeat the contract.

North was unhappy. He pointed out that East had to have either the heart king or club ace for his opening bid. So, as is often the case with this holding, it was right to lead toward the heart jack, not to take the normal finesse. If the jack lost to West's king, East would have the club ace and all would be well. Here, though, if East ducked his heart king, he would lose it. Or, if he took the trick, in a moment, declarer would cash his heart jack, cross to the dummy with a trump and discard his two low clubs on the heart ace and queen.

North 12-03-20
♠ —
♥ A Q 5 2
♦ K 10 6 5 3 2
♣ 7 4 3

West
♠ 7 6 5 4 3 2
♥ 10 8 7 4
♦ 8
♣ A 10

East
♠ A K J 10 9
♥ K 9 6
♦ 7
♣ J 9 8 6

South
♠ Q 8
♥ J 3
♦ A Q J 9 4
♣ K Q 5 2

Dealer: East
Vulnerable: East-West

South	West	North	East
			1♠
2♦	4♠	5♦	All Pass

Opening lead: ♠ 7

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

1				4	8			5
4	5		9	2		8		
8	6		5					
	3		1			9		
2				9				7
		9			2		8	
					9		5	8
		6		1	4		7	9
9			3	5				2

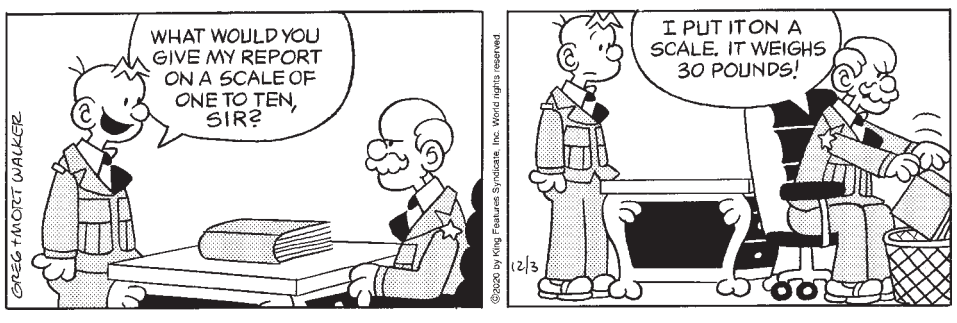
12/3 © 2020 Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS

How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

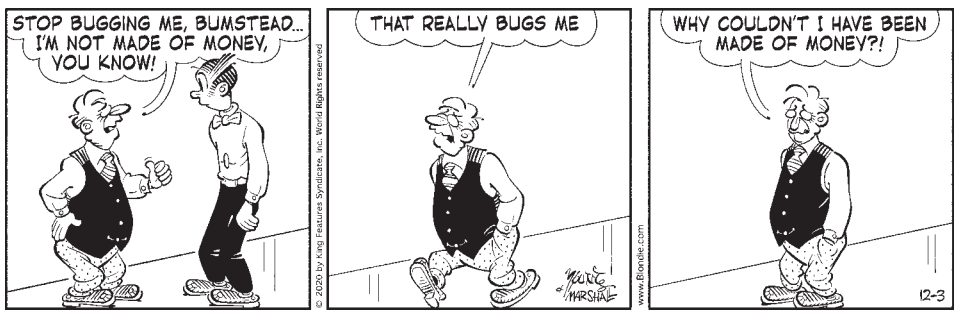
PREVIOUS SOLUTION

5	7	9	3	2	4	6	1	8
1	4	2	9	6	8	7	5	3
8	6	3	1	7	5	4	2	9
3	1	7	8	5	2	9	4	6
6	5	4	7	3	9	1	8	2
2	9	8	4	1	6	3	7	5
9	8	1	2	4	3	5	6	7
7	3	5	6	8	1	2	9	4
4	2	6	5	9	7	8	3	1

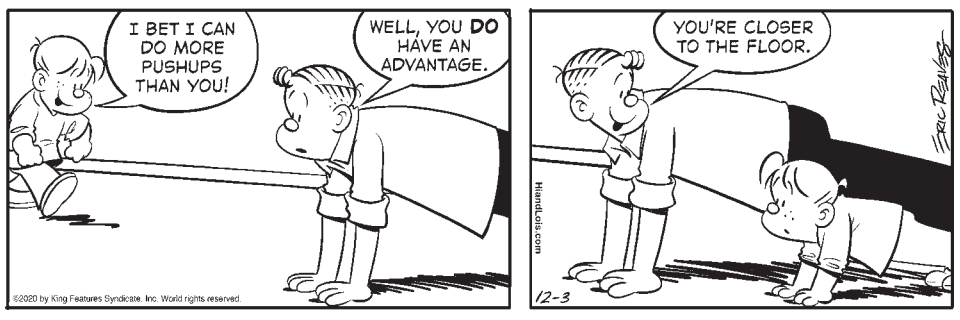
BEETLE BAILEY


WHAT WOULD YOU GIVE MY REPORT ON A SCALE OF ONE TO TEN, SIR?
GREG + MORT WALKER
I PUT IT ON A SCALE. IT WEIGHS 30 POUNDS!
©2020 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved
12/3

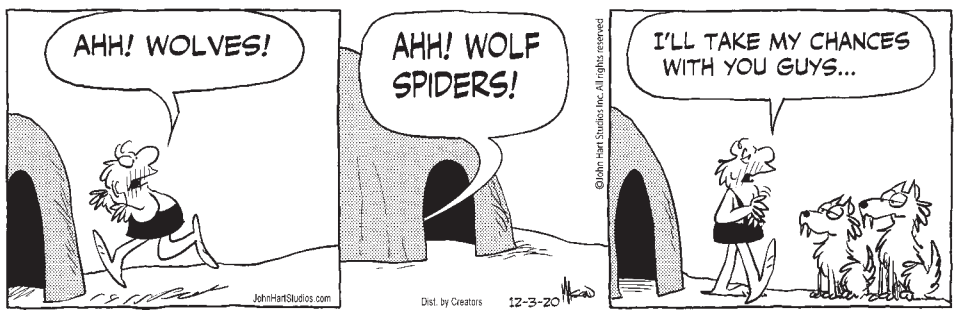
BLONDIE


STOP BUGGING ME, BUMSTEAD... I'M NOT MADE OF MONEY, YOU KNOW!
THAT REALLY BUGS ME
WHY COULDN'T I HAVE BEEN MADE OF MONEY?!
© 2020 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World Rights reserved
MURPHY MARSHALL
www.Blondie.com
12-3

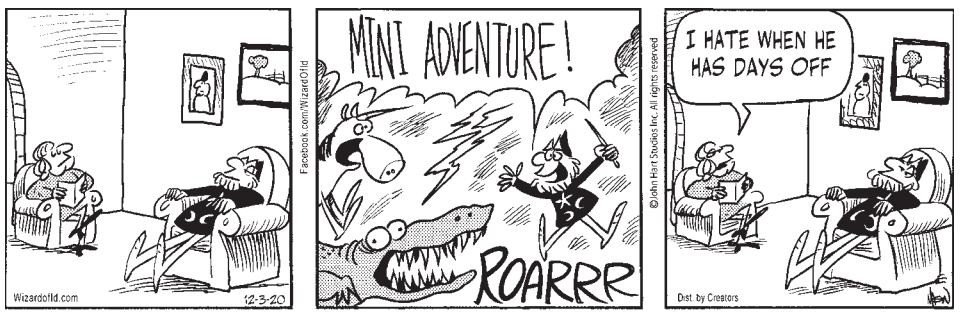
HI & LOIS


I BET I CAN DO MORE PUSHUPS THAN YOU!
WELL, YOU DO HAVE AN ADVANTAGE.
©2020 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
YOU'RE CLOSER TO THE FLOOR.
ERIC REYNOLDS
Hiandlois.com
12-3

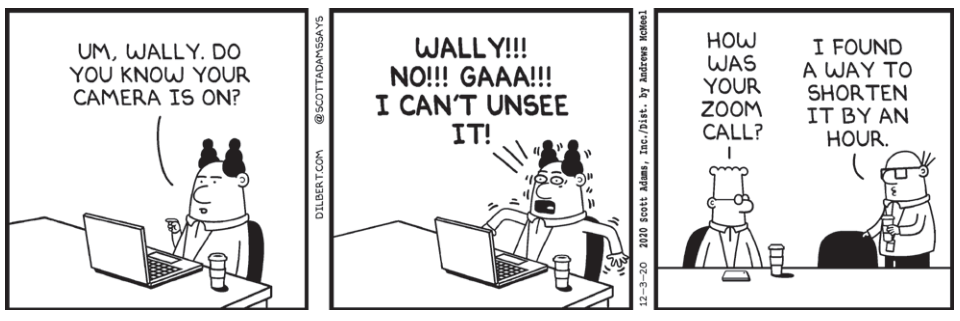
BC



WIZARD OF ID



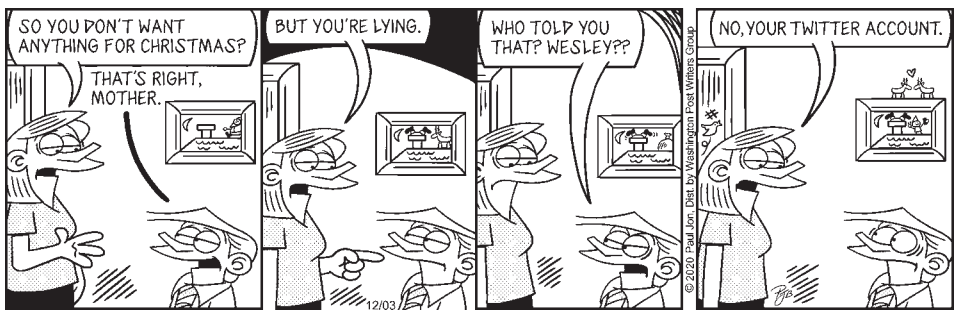
DILBERT


UM, WALLY. DO YOU KNOW YOUR CAMERA IS ON?
DILBERT.COM @SCOTTADAMSSAYS
WALLY!!! NO!!! GAAA!!! I CAN'T UNSEE IT!
HOW WAS YOUR ZOOM CALL?
I FOUND A WAY TO SHORTEN IT BY AN HOUR.
12-3-20 2020 Scott Adams, Inc./Dist. by Andrews McMeel

GARFIELD

AS AN EXPERT ON THE SUBJECT...
HERE'S SOME SIMPLE, EASY-TO-FOLLOW ADVICE ON DIETING...
DON'T
© 2020 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved.
Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication
JIM DAVIS 12-3

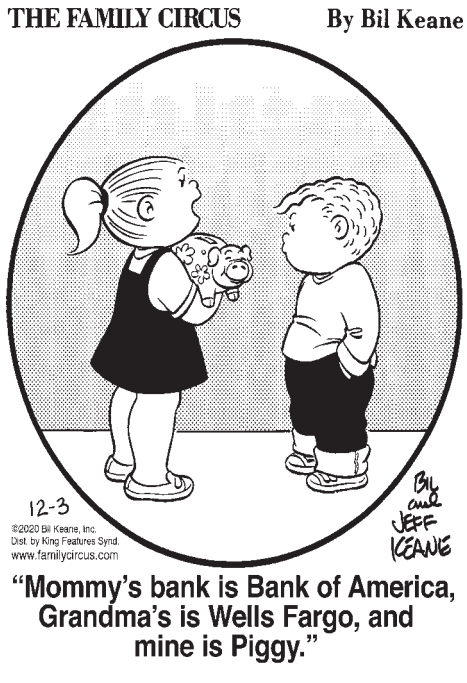
FORT KNOX


SO YOU DON'T WANT ANYTHING FOR CHRISTMAS?
THAT'S RIGHT, MOTHER.
BUT YOU'RE LYING.
WHO TOLD YOU THAT? WESLEY??
NO, YOUR TWITTER ACCOUNT.
© 2020 Paul Jon. Dist. by Washington Post Writers Group
12/03

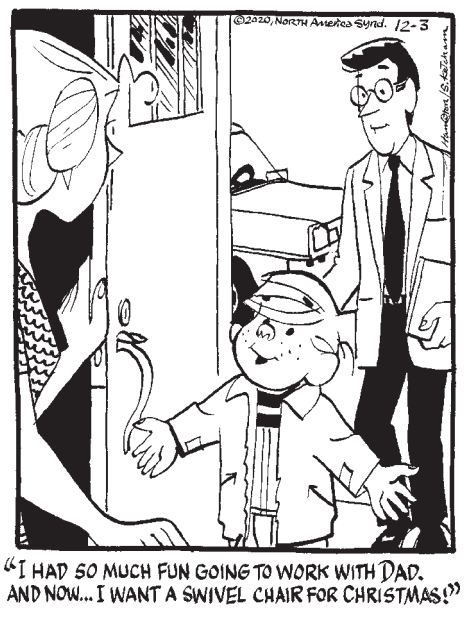
PICKLES

HAVE YOU BEEN BUSY GETTING READY FOR CHRISTMAS, OPAL?
OH, YES. MOSTLY I'VE BEEN TRYING TO PET-PROOF THE CHRISTMAS TREE.
MUFFIN KEEPS CLIMBING IN IT, AND ROSCOE WON'T STOP DRINKING THE WATER FROM THE BOWL UNDER THE TREE.
I THINK I FOUND A SOLUTION.
© 2020 Brian Crane. Dist. by Washington Post Writers Group
picklescomic.com
12/3

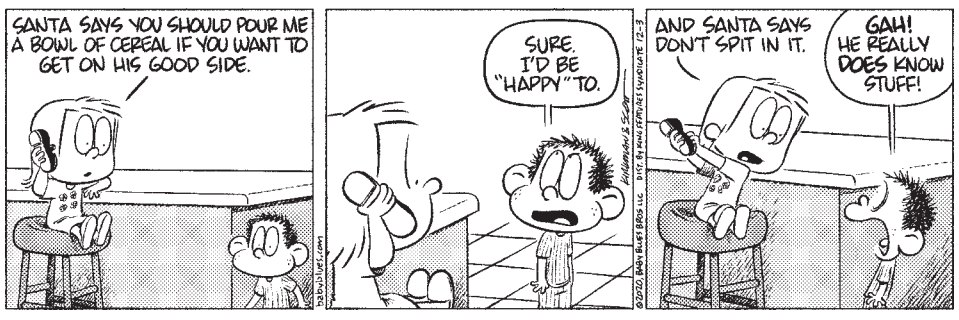
FAMILY CIRCUS


THE FAMILY CIRCUS
By Bil Keane
12-3
©2020 Bil Keane, Inc.
Dist. by King Features Synd.
www.familycircus.com
BIL and JEFF KEANE
"Mommy's bank is Bank of America, Grandma's is Wells Fargo, and mine is Piggy."

DENNIS THE MENACE



BABY BLUES


SANTA SAYS YOU SHOULD POUR ME A BOWL OF CEREAL IF YOU WANT TO GET ON HIS GOOD SIDE.
SURE. I'D BE "HAPPY" TO.
AND SANTA SAYS DON'T SPIT IN IT.
GAH! HE REALLY DOES KNOW STUFF!
©2020 BABY BLUES BROS LLC
DIST. BY KING FEATURES SYNDICATE 12-3

CURTIS

AW, I FORGOT TO SHAKE THE KETCHUP BOTTLE AND I GOT KETCHUP WATER!
IT'S RUINED RUINED RUINED RUINED!!
CURTIS, WOULD YOU LIKE ANOTHER BURGER?
NOT RUINED ENOUGH NOT TO EAT IT, AND YES, I'D LIKE ANOTHER BURGER, PLEASE!
12-3

ZITS

MOM! YOU CAN'T HAVE LUNCH WITH MY SPANISH TEACHER!
OF COURSE I CAN. SHE'S AN OLD FRIEND.
WELL, AT LEAST PROMISE THAT YOU WON'T TALK ABOUT ME!
DONE.
OH, SO NOW I'M NOT INTERESTING ENOUGH TO DISCUSS??
©2020 ZITS Partnership Dist. by King Features
SLOTTMAN BORGMAN 12-3
ZITSCOMICS.COM

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

BROTHER HAGAR, CAN YOU RECITE ANY OF THE TEN COMMANDMENTS?
LET ME THINK...
ASK ME NO QUESTIONS AND I'LL TELL YOU NO LIES!
WAIT! WAS I CLOSE?
©2020 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
12-3

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

WILL YOU MARRY ME?
NO, HIRAM
THEN WILL YOU AT LEAST HELP ME TO STAND BACK UP?
12/3
©2020 Grimmy, Inc. Distributed by King Features Inc. grimmy.com

MUTTS

SHADOW
WHEN MY BRAD FINALLY FOUND ME, I RAN AWAY FROM HIM.
BEING LOST FOR A MONTH, I WAS SCARED, CONFUSED AND IN SURVIVAL MODE.
THANK GOD BRAD WAS IN RESCUE MODE.
www.kingfeatures.com mutts.com
12-3

SALLY FORTH

ALL RIGHT, I STRUNG UP ALL THE LIGHTS AND MADE SURE THEY WORK!
BUT NOT IN THAT ORDER, RIGHT?
YOU KNOW PRECISELY FROM MY CONSTANT CURSING EARLIER THAT'S WHAT I DID. BUT NOW, LET'S DECORATE!
12-3
©2020 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
WHERE SHOULD WE START?
ANYWHERE. JUST PLACE AN ORNAMENT NEAR LIGHT #437 THERE. THAT'S THE THAT WHO MADE ME CURSE IN THE FIRST PLACE.
KEEFE

The Herald-Palladium

DON'T MISS

THIS WEEKEND'S

ISSUE

Included in this Saturday's edition

The Herald-Palladium CLASSIFIEDS

Classified Desk: 1-855-317-4292
Hours: Monday - Friday 8am-4pm EST
Saturday & Sunday 8am-11am EST

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

UNFURNISHED APARTMENTS

La Porte, IN
One and two bedroom apartments available. Water included. No smoking and no pets.
Call for more information & application at:
(801)860-6674

Michigan City, IN

Large, Restored, One Bedroom Victorian. Hardwood Floors, Ceiling Fans, Walk-in Closets, Off-Street Parking, Private Deck. $595.00 including Water. No Dogs.

The Firm Exchange, Inc. 219-363-3134.

HOMES FOR RENT

The Pines

Newer Ranch styled duplex. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, microwave, washer/dryer. Central air, city water. Front and back deck for quiet enjoyment. 8x10 shed included. No pets. Close to Beverly Shores.

$750/mo plus utilities. First, last and security.

Call 219-548-1773

Trade Lines

Tradeline home delivery routes opening (once a week delivery). Please contact Julie Simpleman to apply 269-429-1877

1. Baroda - Linco to West Hinchman and East, as far as Hollywood Rd. $75.00/2weeks

2. Benton Harbor - Meadowbrook/Sodus Parkway area to E. Empire and East, as far as M140 $240/2weeks

3. Berrien Springs - Area off of Old 31/M 139 - John Beers Rd to East Lemon Creek and West, as far as Hollywood Rd. $270/2 weeks

WANTED TO RENT

Summer Rental
Retired couple with dog looking for summer rental as close to Lake Michigan as possible - July or August. One week.
Email info to:
meyr985@msn.com

BUSINESS PLACES/ OFFICES

Michigan City, IN
Hair Salon/Storefront for Lease
Centrally located
High visibility area
Leave Message
574-850-7934

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

NEW BUFFALO, MI
U.S. HWY 12
(Near I-94 Exit 4)

Close to
Lake Michigan

For Sale by Owner

2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths. Overlooking 3/4 acre wooded ravine. 2 fireplaces. Recreation room with bar, 2 car detached garage. City water.
Call (813) 240-4494.

LEGALS

Notice

Hagar Township Board Meeting

December 14, 2020

The Hagar Township Board is holding its regular board meeting electronically on December 14, 2020 at 7pm. Items on the agenda will include bill payment, review of past meeting minutes, and

LEGALS

open action items.

Residents and interested individuals can join the electronic meeting from their homes by calling with a landline or cellphone:

833 548 0282
US Toll-free

OR

877 853 5257
US Toll-free

LEGALS

Listen to the prompts through the phone and when asked, enter Meeting ID: Use Meeting ID: 843 7952 6066 # The phone system will ask for a participant ID number, press #

If requested, enter password 3900

Instructions to access electronic meeting online, using your computer or smartphone's audio/microphone or camera:

Visit this URL:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84379526066?pwd=di8wY3RCUytyM3JyT240OEh2TzJUUT09

Use Meeting ID: 843 7952 6066

Passcode: 3900

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the matter of the David Fairchild Trust Agreement dated March 25, 2013.

Date of Birth: 4/11/1976

TO ALL CREDITORS NOTICE TO CREDITORS:
The decedent, David Fairchild, died October 4, 2020. No probate estate has been opened for David Fairchild and there is no Personal Representative of the Settlor's probate estate to whom Letters of Authority have been issued. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Trust for the benefit of David Fairchild will be forever barred unless presented to William Humphreys, named as Trustee of said Trust, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice. Notice is further given that this Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons/entities entitled to the trust assets thereunder.

Dated: 11/30/2020

Kurt M. Armstrong
(P30322)
511 Renaissance Drive, Suite 110
St. Joseph, MI 49085
269-983-5777

William Humphreys
4513 East River Road
Buchanan, MI 49107
269-405-3910

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EMPLOYMENT

TECHNICAL

Help Wanted
Jim's Heating Service
HVAC Service Tech
5 years experience
To apply stop in at
372 S Fair Ave.
Benton Harbor, MI
or call
269-926-1512

GENERAL HELP

New Carlisle, IN
Marbach-Palm, Inc.
Now Hiring Full Time Land Surveying Field Technician in New Carlisle, IN.
For more information, job qualifications, and to submit your application please visit www.marbach.us

The City of South Haven is seeking a Senior Equipment Operator in our Water/Sewer division. Individuals with one or more years of experience in the operation of power-driven equipment, including pay loader, snowplow, street sweeper, backhoe and other equipment are encouraged to apply. Must have good driving record, high school diploma or equivalent, possess valid Michigan driver's license and be able to obtain a CDL within 9 months of hire.
To view full job posting and apply, go to
southhavenmi.gov/human_resources.
Deadline for application is Dec 18. EOE

FINANCIAL

GARAGE /ESTATE SALES

GARAGE/ESTATE SALES

Estate Sale
Dec 3rd 4th & 5th
10am to 4pm
2235 Mt Curve Ave
St. Joseph 49085

We open the house up at 10am
Will need a mask to enter.
Households.
Furniture. tools.
Christmas decor.
Antiques.
And a house full of more great treasures !

Hartford, MI
Estate/Garage Sale
December 3rd-6th
9:00am - 3:00pm
57828 65 1/2 St.
(Off Red Arrow Hwy)
Hartford, MI
Antiques/Side by Side, 2 Refrigerators, Maple Table, Queen Bedroom Set, Heaters, Men's XL Clothes/Coats, Maple 2pc Hutch, Antique Stove, Lots of Household Misc.
Come rain, snow or shine!
Mask Required.

St. Joseph, MI
Home for the Holidays
moving sale by appointment only
Thursday, 12/3-Saturday 12/5
call Robin at
269-208-4325
for appointment and address.
COVID Rules in effect
RB Zollar Estate Sale
269-208-4325

MERCHANDISE

ANTIQUES/ART

HOLIDAY SALE
Harbert Antique Mall
11am - 6pm on
Black Friday 11/27,
Saturday 11/28 &
Sunday 11/29
Up to 50% off
Consignment and many dealer items.
13887 Red Arrow Highway, Harbert
Michigan 49115

BUILDING MATERIALS

LaPorte, IN
High heat bills
For Sale
Bubble Wrap Foil Insulation
100 ft Rolls
4' 5' 6' wide
Insulate your homes, pole barns, dog houses, etc.
Half price, will keep 97% of heat in home.
cheap!!
219-324-0444

WANTED TO RENT/ BUY/TRADE

Benton Harbor, MI
3 Pillars Music is looking to buy record albums from 1970s to present, older guitars and comic books.
Please contact Tom at 269-313-7001 or 3pillarsmusic@gmail.com

GENERAL HELP

WANTED TO RENT/ BUY/TRADE

BUYING JUNK
CARS & TRUCKS
Small Cars $200
Medium Cars $300
Large Vehicles $350
Call Larry at
(269)326-0510
Or Scott at
(269)208-9208

PETS

CATS/DOGS/PETS

Bremen, IN
AKC Black Labrador Retriever puppies. First shots and wormed.Males and females. Ready now. $800.00
Call 574-773-4939

Goshen, IN
For sale-
Christmas Puppies!
F1B Mini Golden Doodle puppies
Vet checked and UTD on shots, ready for pickup December 7, but would consider holding for closer to Christmas with deposit,
Male & Female
$2,150, call
574-642-0148 ext. 3

FARM

TRANSPORTATION

BOATS FOR SALE

HOBIE CAT 14 Turbo

Tilt bed multi boat road trailer w/full size wheels, w/ spare, w/boat box. Also, rubber balloon tire beach wheels. Very good condition $1100.00

Call 847-561-5500. If no answer, please leave a message

CARS FOR SALE

Benton Harbor, MI
1998 Buick Century custom 4D about 170,000 miles
AM/FM Radio, AC
windshield wiper/sunroof
all work
starter & new brakes, 2 yrs old
trunk & inside very clean, $900
-leave message
269-252-9929

Responding to employment ads that contain a Herald-Palladium box #

No telephone calls please! We will not reveal the name of the box holder.
(A) Reply with your sealed letter Addressed as follows:

Box (# that appears in ad)
c/o the Herald-Palladium
P.O. Box 128
St. Joseph, MI
49085-0128

If you wish to reply to a box number and NOT have your letter sent to certain firms, then: B) attach a note listing which firms are NOT to receive your letter; and (C) send every thing in ANOTHER ENVELOPE addressed as follows:

The Herald-Palladium
Classified Department
P.O. Box 128
St. Joseph, MI
49085-0128

If the advertiser is among the names you don't want to contact, we will destroy your sealed letter.

E-Mail Responses
You may also reply to ads with Herald-Palladium box numbers by e-mail. Do not attach your resume rather type it or copy & paste it directly into your e-mail program. Send your e-mail to:
jobs@heraldpalladium.com

If you wish to reply to a box number and NOT have your letter sent to certain firms, then begin your e-mail with any company(s) where you do not wish to apply. Then include the Herald-Palladium box address as shown above.

Employment Advertisers Who Wish to Remain Anonymous
To protect our readers, Herald-Palladium policy requires that all companies list their names when placing ads in our publication. Employment advertisers who wish to remain anonymous must rent Herald-Palladium boxes so that we can insure our readers that they are not responding to their current employers or any other company to which they do not wish to apply.

Box Charges
Boxes are reserved for 30 days after last day of ad publication. The charge is:
$10. per box- you pick-up responses.
$15. per box - We fax all responses to you on a daily basis.
$25. per box- We mail responses to you once per week.
When readers respond to your ad via e-mail, we will forward them to you immediately if you provide us with an e-mail address or we will print and handle them in the manner that you request.

The Herald-Palladium

HOROSCOPE

By EUGENIA LAST

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3
Avoid conversations that lead nowhere. A cut-and-dried approach will ensure that you reach your goal and build a better future. Learn from the past and forge ahead. Put your energy where it counts, and you will succeed. Choose peace over discord.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) You'll accomplish the most if you work alone. An activity that will get you up and moving will prove inspirational. Set realistic goals, and you will achieve your expectations.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Do your part and make a difference. How you deal with others will affect your reputation and encourage a promotion. Your leadership ability will shine, and good recommendations will follow.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Don't make changes because someone else does. Follow your heart, and do what's right and best for you. Speak your mind, and make it clear where you stand and what you plan to do.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Stick to facts, figures and regulations. Pay attention to detail, and negotiate on your behalf. There is money to be made if you do things properly. Ask for help if you need it.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Put your thoughts on hold. Stay focused on what you are trying to accomplish, and you will make headway. Don't let the actions of others cause uncertainty.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Show interest in what others do. You will reach a personal goal if you speak on your own behalf and negotiate positively. An improvement in a meaningful relationship will unfold.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Don't saddle yourself with someone's problems. If you let someone mislead you or come between you and your pursuits, you will have regrets. Put your needs first. Tend to your own business.

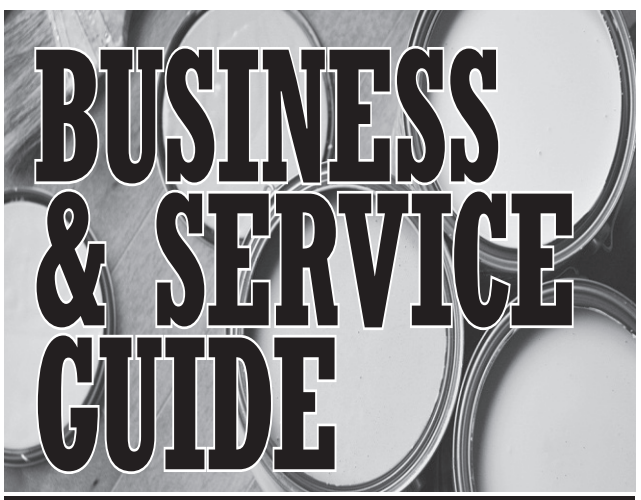
CANCER (June 21-July 22) Handle business matters personally. A joint venture looks promising. A romantic gesture will prompt you to make a change that will improve your life.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Engage in activities that inspire you to get fit. Focus on things you love to do, and promote better relationships with friends and family. Speak up and do what you do best.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You have more opportunities than you realize. Take a closer look at your options, and distance yourself from people trying to push you in a direction you don't want to go.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Information you receive will change the way you handle personal and professional matters. Refuse to let anyone put you in an awkward position. If you want something, say so.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Focus more on your physical and emotional well-being and less on past events. Take action and get your responsibilities out of the way, then move on to something that inspires and motivates you.



CARPENTRY
Richter's Carpentry
Specializing in basement remodeling, drywall, drop ceilings, doors & trim.
No job too small.
20+ years in Business.
944-0236

HOME IMPROVEMENT & REPAIR
Larry Morrow SR
Residential Builder
- Painting
- Kitchens
- Baths
- Drywall
- Roofing
- Decks
- Windows
- Doors
- Fences
- Electrical
- Plumbing
- Flooring
- Siding
- Basements
- Tub Refinishing

269-325-2242
Licensed & Insured

ROOFING
Demler Roofing
Over 40 Years Experience
Baroda, MI
269-422-2542
Licensed & Insured
Shingles are our Specialty

MASONRY
Michigan Concrete Masonry
Driveways, all concrete, brick, block, stone & chimneys.
All repairs, big or small
(We repair all leaky basements)
(269)993-8645

Extra Business is as easy as asking for it!
DO IT HERE, DO IT NOW!

hp OUR TOWN

Have news for 'Our Town'?

Do you have some news about your hometown that you would like to see in the paper? Send it to "Our Town" in care of Features Editor Andy Steinke at The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085; deliver it to 3450 Hollywood Road; fax it to The HP at 429-4398; or send email to focus@TheHP.com. Timely news about upcoming events should be received two weeks prior to the events.

RESA recognizes 2020 Partners in Education

BERRIEN SPRINGS — For the 11th year, Berrien Regional Education Service Agency has recognized a group of community organizations as its Partners in Education for their longstanding commitment to fostering relationships that encourage student development and achievement.

Berrien RESA typically hosts a reception in their honor, however, the COVID-19 pandemic changed this year's celebration. Instead of an awards breakfast, winners were celebrated with special gift boxes that included a plaque and commemorative thank you note.

To ensure a contactless presentation, the boxes were left at front doors or at service counters to be opened by the winners at their convenience.

The awardees took videos of themselves opening up their packages to share with Berrien RESA and the community.

This year's Partners in Education were:

- Harding's Friendly Market in Berrien Springs
- Pizza Hut in St. Joseph
- Rural King in Niles
- Benton Township Housing Commission

Partners were nominated by Berrien RESA staff.

"Rural King has partnered with Blossomland Learning Center's Niles offsite program for the past 6 years," said Delynn Williams, a teacher for the program. "Students started in the consumables department and quickly moved to working throughout the store. Rural King has already hired two of our students, and is always open to hiring more."

Harding's was nominated by Sarah Klee, also a teacher at Blossomland Learning Center.

"Harding's is amazing with our students when we do our weekly shopping trips there," she said. "They help answer the students' questions, provide great customer service and allow our students to practice job skills, like bagging our groceries. The employees are friendly, patient and we look forward to seeing them."

Cheryl Lattak, a teacher for the St. Joseph offsite program, nominated Abbi Gnatz, manager at Pizza Hut in St. Joseph.

"Abbi has always welcomed our students and has been patient while working with them," Lattak said. "She has hired students from our classroom and the Project SEARCH program. Abbi has been flexible and has embraced new opportunities to serve our students. She has worked with the St. Joseph offsite [classroom] since at least 2005."

Demarra Drake at the Benton Township Housing Commission was nominated by Patrick Conley, supervisor of Birth to Three Services at Berrien RESA, thanks to the help she provided in finding usable space for the Early Childhood Education Department.

"Ms. Drake has been fantastic and responsive at meeting our needs as renters of space at the Sammie Smith Family Investment Center," Conley said. "Whenever a request or need arises, she responds as quickly as possible and has someone on site for us right away."

In addition to the plaques, each of the winners' names will be engraved on a perpetual Partnership Tree sculpture that can be seen in the Berrien RESA Administrative Conference Center.

"This is our special way of saying thank you for all that these entities do to support education throughout Berrien County," Berrien RESA Superintendent Eric Hoppstock said. "These businesses have gone above and beyond to ensure that students, staff, parents and families have access to numerous educational opportunities. We are truly grateful."

Photo provided

Four Winds Casinos employees and citizens of the Pokagon Band worked together to pack the Thanksgiving boxes.

Pokagon Band, Four Winds Casinos donate 1,000 Thanksgiving food boxes

NEW BUFFALO — The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi and its Four Winds Casinos donated 1,000 Thanksgiving boxes to those in need Thanksgiving week, according to a news release.

Distribution was completed by the Food Bank of Northern Indiana through the St. Joseph County Pantry.

Each Thanksgiving box included a ham, stuffing, corn, a potato, cranberry jelly and a pumpkin roll.

"We are proud to be able to continue our tradition of giving back during the holiday season. These Thanksgiving boxes can help families in Southwest Michigan and Northern Indiana, enjoy a holiday meal together during these challenging times," Matthew Wesaw, Tribal Council chairman and CEO of the Pokagon Gaming Authority, said in the release.

"We are so grateful for our partnership with the Pokagon Band and its Four Winds Casinos for their commitment to feeding the hungry," said Marijo Martinec, executive director and CEO of the Food Bank of Northern Indiana. "The need is so great."

For more info about the Food Bank of Northern Indiana, visit feedindiana.org.

Farm Bureau donates food baskets to those in need

BERRIEN SPRINGS — As Thanksgiving approached, the Berrien County Farm Bureau gave away 110 baskets to families in need.

Each basket was filled with all the ingredients needed for a traditional Thanksgiving feast, according to a news release. In all, more than 4,000 pounds of food was distributed within three hours Nov. 21.

The Farm Bureau's annual Thanks-4-Giving Project began in 2018, when Tim Ames had the idea of growing 50 turkeys on his farm to share with those in need.

"Thanksgiving is a time to share the bountiful harvest," Ames said in the news release. "What better way than to fill a basket with food for a delicious meal to share with friends and neighbors. As a member of Farm Bureau, I wanted to give back to the community. We are farmers doing our job to feed the world."

Others partnering with Farm Bureau on the program were Michigan State University Extension 4-H Clubs of Berrien County, Southwestern Michigan College Collegiate Farm Bureau, and the Farm Bureau of Michigan Agent Charitable Fund. Donating to the project were Monte Packaging, Cheddar Rose Farm and Game Changers.

Photo provided

This year's Farm Bureau Thanksgiving food baskets were so overflowing the turkeys had to be put in reusable shopping bags.

Three Berrien County 4-H alumni awarded scholarships

Three 4-H Club alumni received scholarships during the virtual Berrien County 4-H Member & Leader Recognition Celebration.

Darlene Mattson of Benton Harbor received the 4-H Joseph Cerny & Evelyn Cerny Memorial Scholarship of $1,000. Karen Smith of Stevensville received the $1,000 4-H Alumni Scholarship. And Victoria Dumke of Buchanan was given the Berrien County 4-H Horse Leaders Association Equine Educational Scholarship for $500.

Darlene is the daughter of Herman and Lisa Mattson. She has been a 4-H member for 10 years, and is a member of Countrysiders 4-H Club, Best Friends 4-H Club, Town & Country Paws and Pals 4-H Club and Straight Shooters 4-H Club.

MATTSON

SMITH

DUMKE

She is a team instructor in the Best Friends 4-H Club, where she mentors youth in the dog project. She has participated in various projects, however, her leadership stands out the most as she's been elected as a teen director for the Berrien County 4-H Leaders Association. She provides insights for the local 4-H program and provides a youth voice in program/event development.

Recently, Darlene was awarded a State 4-H Award for her hard work and dedication to the companion animal science project, specifically the dog program. She is pursuing a degree in engineering at Lake Michigan College.

Karen is the daughter of Ryan and Beth Smith of Stevensville. She has been a member for more than 10 years in the Galien Chanters 4-H Club, Baroda Bunnies 4-H Club and the Fuzzy Friends 4-H Club.

Karen has participated in a variety of projects, including rabbits, clothing and textile – sewing, food and nutrition, poultry, and llamas. She has been involved in the annual 4-H Spring Achievement event, 4-H Exploration Days and has been elected to various leadership roles within her clubs. Karen was selected as a 2018 4-H State Award Delegate in the Rabbit & Cavy Science project. She now is attending Southwestern Michigan College.

Victoria is the daughter of Paul Dumke of Buchanan. She is a member of the River Valley Wranglers 4-H Club. She has participated as a member of the 4-H Horse and Pony project, where she has gained knowledge on grooming, horse health, safety when working with horses as well as gaining a deeper understanding of ideal movement and confirmation by being a member of the Berrien County 4-H horse judging team.

Besides project mastery, she has learned life skills that have impacted her success throughout life, such as public speaking, self-confidence and leaderships.

Victoria was a member of the state champion horse judging, where she was able to compete nationally representing Michigan 4-H with her teammates. She is currently attending Ferris State University and majoring in accounting.

IN BRIEF

Friends host Zoom talk with Postema

NEW BUFFALO — The Friends of New Buffalo Library will host their next Zoom presentation at 7 p.m. Tuesday.

Chikaming Open Lands Executive Director Ryan Postema will talk about plant and animal species that call Berrien County home.

He will discuss the wide range of ecosystems, from prairies and wetlands to forests and dunes, that provide the habitat for an abundance of unique, rare and protected plants and animals. He also will share what is being done to help preserve these species and their habitats.

To find log-in information for the program, check the events tab on New Buffalo Township Library's website or email new.buffalo.fol@gmail.com.

Libraries turn reading into giving

DECATUR — Children in Van Buren County who have limited or no access to a public or school library are eligible for a free book courtesy of Van Buren District Library's Friends groups, patrons and staff.

Participants in the district's November "Read to Give" Challenge logged 790 books during the month, far-surpassing the goal of 500. Once the goal was reached, VBDL's Friends groups purchased a variety of books to be distributed through United Christian Services.

Books are available at the USC offices, Linda's Closet and The Porch. USC is located at Annex Suite 1, 600 E. Michigan Ave., Paw Paw. It can be reached at 415-0767.

For more information, contact Cheryl Bull at Bloomingdale Branch Library at 521-7601, or email info@vbdl.org.

Van Buren District Library is headquartered in Decatur with branches in Bangor, Bloomingdale, Covert, Gobles, Lawrence and Mattawan.

Lions raising funds for those in need

WATERVLIET — The Watervliet Lions Club has started a GoFundMe page to help those in the Watervliet community who need help now.

All money raised will go to Watervliet churches for food assistance, utility bill assistance and Christmas baskets for families in need.

Donations big and small can be made online at gf.me/u/za4ajd, or by mailing a check to Watervliet Lions Club, P.O. Box 705, Watervliet, MI 49098.

Free classes offered for older adults

Older adults experiencing social isolation due to the COVID-19 pandemic have a virtual opportunity available to them.

Through its partnership with the national education technology company GetSetUp, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Aging & Adult Services Agency is offering a series of social hours. The special classes will help older adults connect with family and friends this holiday season.

Registration is required. Classes and social hours are offered online and via telephone.

To register, visit www.getsetup.io/partner/michigan or call 888-559-1614.

Older Michiganders can access more than 150 free online group classes designed for, and led by, older adults. Popular classes include how to use a smartphone or tablet, how to use services like video conferencing, Gmail, Facebook, YouTube, as well as virtual social hours.

Take a photo with Santa Claus

HARTFORD — From 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Dec. 12, Hartford Public Library, 12 Church St., will be giving away take-home activity bags, books and candy to all children.

It also will have an area set up for holiday photos with Santa and a sleigh. Patrons can take photos with their smartphones.

When entering the community rooms, masks will be required. The library will limit the number of people in the room at one time to keep everyone as safe as possible.

For more information, or questions, call 588-5103.